

# VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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"The Romans and Greeks sacrificed to Pallas Athena (Minerva) before going to war, and the actual presiding divinity of battle was Bellona, who was fabled as driving her smoking steeds furiously through the ranks of the combatants. When these female divinities of war came into actual conflict with male war gods the latter were usually made to get the worst of it."—(See the Article on "Warrior Women," on p. 357).

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Our Cartoon .....	349
The Outlook .....	349
Getting New Readers .....	350
Census Resistance .....	351
The Charges against the Police .....	352
Men Arrested at Downing St... Woman and Labour. Part I. A Scripture by E. P. L. ....	353
The Household Franchise for Women .....	355
W.S.P.U. Announcements .....	355
Carry the Bill! By Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B. ....	356

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

## THE OUTLOOK.

Widespread interest and indignation have been aroused by the Memorandum of the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee which we published last week, dealing with the treatment of the women's deputations by the police last November. The *Manchester Guardian*, which has never hesitated to put principle before party,

printed the Memorandum in full, and commented on it in a leading article, in the course of which it said:—

In face of the exceedingly grave charges which it contains, we do not see how Mr. Churchill can refuse an inquiry. Indeed, the Home Office is no doubt anxious for a full, searching, and impartial investigation. For, apart from what is, if it is substantiated, a hideous wrong to many brave and defenceless women, the honour of the police is at stake.

*The Eastern Morning News*, in a powerful leading article under the title "More than We can Stand" took a similarly strong line, concluding with the words, "Englishmen will not stand by and tolerate such outrages as are described in the report which has been brought to the notice of Mr. Churchill." The appeal for a public enquiry has also been strongly supported by the *Christian Commonwealth* and many other leading papers.

### An Official View.

On the other hand, some members of the press, noticeably two well-known Liberal organs, *The Liverpool Daily Post* and *The Nation*, have not hesitated to direct their criticism against the Conciliation Committee. *The Liverpool Daily Post* says that, "when women attack the police and take to forcing their way into Westminster they can only be repelled by force." We should have supposed that even anti-Suffragists would have admitted that there are limits beyond which the

authorities have no right to go even when they are trying to prevent women from asking, at the proper place, for a right to which they are entitled. But the most extraordinary thing is the attitude adopted by *The Nation*, which argues as follows:—

We are bound to say that we disapprove both the policy and one particular method of the Committee. Two courses were open to it. They might have carefully collected evidence of the worst, or most salient, cases of misconduct they allege, and have prosecuted the supposed offenders. Or they might have collected this evidence and put it privately before the Home Office, reserving the right to publish if redress were refused. Instead of taking this course, they not only publish the evidence at once, but they couple with it a charge or a suggestion of gross misconduct against the Home Office of which no kind of proof is offered.

We confess to a sense of profound astonishment, not untouched with humiliation, that one of our national papers should have sunk so low as to remain unmoved by the shameful facts which are brought out in the Memorandum, and to see in it only a ground for quarrelling with the procedure adopted by the Conciliation Committee. Even our old enemy, *The Spectator*, recognises that the charges in the Memorandum are serious, and imagines that "Mr. Churchill will see fit to grant an inquiry, not merely because the request comes from a non-party organisation, but because he owes it to the police that they should not be allowed to rest under such very grave imputations—imputations



so entirely at variance with their high records—if they can rebut them."

#### Mr. Churchill Refuses an Inquiry.

Mr. Churchill, however, evidently afraid to face publicity on the facts, has refused to grant the inquiry, and falls back on the excuses put forward by *The Nation*. Replying to a question in the House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon, he alleged delay in bringing the charges, and declared that if they could be supported by evidence they ought to have been preferred in a police court. The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police had assured him that the instructions given to the police had been to act with restraint and moderation. There were not more than a dozen plain clothes detectives in the crowd, and they were there in order to deal with possible thieves. Not one of the 200 women arrested had complained of undue violence.

#### There Has Been No Delay.

The suggestion put forward by Mr. Churchill, that the charges have been hushed up until now, and that they have been sprung upon the authorities at a very great length of time after the alleged cruelties took place, is not true. There has been no delay in bringing these charges. In fact, while the battle of Westminster was still raging, complaints were even then made to the authorities at Scotland Yard. Mrs. Drummond herself called there shortly after the deputation, and made definite complaints about one or two particular cases. In the issue of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, which went to press after the deputation on November 18, a complaint was made of the police behaviour. A large number of the 200 women arrested would have made their complaints in the police court, but Mr. Churchill effectively prevented their doing so by withdrawing the charges against them. At the General Election a leaflet was issued definitely stating that the Home Secretary had used methods of brutality. Mrs. Saul Solomon wrote him a long and convincing letter, giving a faithful account of her own experiences. There was a question in the House of Commons about this matter, when the Home Secretary gave one of the usual evasive official replies. This statement has taken a long time to prepare, partly because some of the women who had evidence to give were for two months in prison and were not released until after Christmas, partly because while the election was raging it was impossible to get the careful attention of the Home Office to a statement of this kind, and partly because the Conciliation Committee were scattered and could not be got together until the re-assembling of Parliament. So that there has been singularly little delay in presenting to the public and the Home Office the necessary statement.

#### Police Court Justice.

The other suggestion, that the right method of dealing with this matter would be to prosecute individual members of the police we dismiss with contempt. It is not a matter of making scapegoats of one or two policemen who have acted at the bidding of their superior officers but who would not be allowed by official rules to disclose the instructions on which they acted in the police-court. But further than this the mere thought of attempting to win justice against the police within the precincts of a police-court is one which would appear to us as humorous if it were not profoundly sad. Our experience of these courts of summary jurisdiction is that justice cannot be obtained in them; they are simply courts for registering the decisions of the police where the Home Secretary, who is the ultimate head of the police and of the magistrates alike, can work his pleasure at will. If any proof of this were needed was it not furnished last November when the Home Secretary, fearing the exposure which would have resulted from prosecuting the charges of obstruction against the arrested women, withdrew them *en bloc* and rendered magistrate and police alike impotent? The whole matter was very clearly dealt with by Miss Christabel Pankhurst in her speech at the Queen's Hall last Monday, an extract from which will be found on page 353.

#### Militant Protest by Men.

As a protest against the treatment by the Government of the question of Woman Suffrage and the discreditable revelations concerning November last, two men scaled the wall into Downing Street on Wednesday morning when the Cabinet Council was sitting, and directed a stone at one of the windows. To a stone was attached a letter, which will be found on page 352.

Both men were immediately arrested and taken to Bow Street where the police evidence was heard. They were bound over to keep the peace for three months, or, as an alternative, sent to prison for three weeks. Mr. Garrett agreed to be bound over, but Mr. Abbey, who refused, was sent to prison.

#### The Household Franchise for Women.

In an able leaflet, which we give in full on page 355 Mr. Brailsford explains the precise significance of the new Conciliation Bill, whose object is to confer the household franchise on women. This is the Bill whose second reading is to be taken on May 5, and in view of the profound ignorance of the general public as to the exact character of the women's demand, fostered as it is by deliberate misrepresentation by anti-Suffragists and a section of the press, we hope that our readers will take every opportunity of getting this leaflet into the hands of the men and women of the country. It can be obtained from the Woman's Press on the usual terms.

#### The Case of Mrs. Woolmore.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday in last week, Mr. Winston Churchill, in refusing to interfere with the sentence on Mrs. Woolmore—the woman who was sent to prison for six weeks because she was unable to keep her wretched home clean—attempted to justify the action of the magistrates, and indicated that the woman was sent to prison not so much as a punishment for a crime as that she might be treated for weak-mindedness. Suffragists, however, know full well that Holloway prison is the very last place to be considered as a hospital for the sick in body, or an asylum for the weak in mind. Most astonishing of all, however, is the assurance of Mr. Churchill that the woman was imprisoned for the sake of her children. Surely it is a new and most startling innovation in criminal procedure to suggest that a person may be incarcerated, not for crime committed, but for the special interest and benefit of other persons! Such a dangerous precedent would not have been accepted had the person concerned been a man instead of a woman. It looks very much as though the Habeas Corpus Act, so far as it applies to women, is to be torn up, just as the Bill of Rights, so far as it applies to women, has been torn up, as well as the fundamental principle of the British constitution that taxation and representation should go together.

#### The Rights of a Mother.

The case of the Belfast mother, Mrs. McCann, was raised in the House of Lords on Tuesday when the facts of the Ne Temere Decree were discussed. Lord Crewe, speaking for the Government, took precisely the same line taken by Mr. Birrell in the House of Commons. He pointed out that "with regard to the effect of the decree there would be no doubt that the Civil law could not possibly be overridden by it." There could be no more emphatic statement of the truth that it is the Civil law of marriage and the Civil law alone which is responsible for the position of Mrs. McCann, which empowers a man in the position of McCann to kidnap the children, born in wedlock, and refuse to give any information to the mother with regard to their whereabouts or to their health and welfare. It is a matter of common knowledge that there are a multitude of women suffering as Mrs. McCann suffers from the gross injustice of the Civil marriage law, which has been made regardless of the woman's point of view.

#### Brutal Treatment of Children.

Women have read with disgust the attempt of the Home Office to whitewash the authorities at Heswall Nautical School, in the report prepared by Mr. Masterman. The facts came to light mainly owing to the courageous action of Mrs. Adam, who was for a short time Matron of the school, but who was suspended from her position owing to the complaint she made to the Captain Superintendent, Mr. Beutler, of the way in which the boys were treated. Though Mr. Masterman would have the public believe that the main parts of her accusation have not been substantiated, yet the facts of the case reveal a state of affairs which will surely strike all decent people with horror. In twenty-eight cases excessive canings were performed, and the report speaks of the need of antiseptic dressing because of the skin being broken. Blankets were used on occasions to stifle the cries of the boys being punished. On one occasion a boy was doused with cold water and shortly afterwards died. On another occasion the whole school were kept standing till 5 a.m. as a punishment. Nothing shows more clearly the need for women's influence at St. Stephens than these revelations.

#### California and Kansas.

California has gone a long step in the direction of Votes for Women; some particulars of the voting in favour of the constitutional amendment granting full suffrage to women will be found in a letter from Miss Alice L. Park, on another page. Many influential women from different parts of California gathered in Sacramento on behalf of the amendment, and the Judiciary Committee, consisting of twenty lawyers, granted a public hearing in the Senate Chamber. Every available seat and standing room was occupied, and spectators packed into the balcony. Each side was given 45 minutes in which to speak. The Anti-Suffragists had one speaker (who occupied the whole of that time) while six women spoke on the Suffragist side. It is reported by the *Los Angeles Express* that for many years the Senate has not witnessed a more enthusiastic and sustained outburst of applause than that which greeted Mrs. Shelley Tolhurst, one of the Suffragist speakers, who for thirty minutes piled fact upon fact,

"piercing with delicate irony the platitudes of opposition, and finally summing up her case in argument that swept everything before it. As the graciously bowed acknowledgment to the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the audience, that filled the Chamber far beyond the legal limit of breathing space, broke forth in a long continuous expression of earnest approval. It was a great night for the advocates of suffrage."

The following day the Committee reported in favour of the amendment by a vote of fourteen to three, and the Senate and Assembly carried it by an overwhelming majority. In Kansas also the Governor has signed a Woman Suffrage resolution. It will be published in the Statute Book in May, and be voted on at the next election. In Kansas, women already have the right to vote for city officials.

#### Items of Interest.

Preston Town Council has supported, with only four dissentients, a memorial of the local branch of the W.S.P.U. urging the Government to pass the Women's Enfranchise-ment Bill into law.

The Leicester Town Council carried on Tuesday last, by an overwhelming majority, a resolution urging the passage of the Conciliation Bill.

#### GETTING NEW READERS.

Feb. 20 to Feb. 25.

The storm of indignation aroused by the facts published by the Conciliation Committee as to the treatment of the Women's Deputation in November is a striking proof of the sympathy of the public when once they are in possession of the truth. It brings home to us more than ever the necessity for a very much wider distribution of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, which is the only paper that publishes regularly the real facts about the militant movement. The following list of friends who have sent in forms for new readers during the past week shows what splendid work is being done to make the paper known. In eleven weeks readers have gained 1,348 new subscribers, a splendid object lesson of individual effort!

Previously acknowledged	1,233	Mrs. F. Robertson	5
ledged	1,233	Mrs. A. K. Channing	2
Mrs. Dempster	1	Miss Goodlife	1
Mrs. Gay	1	Mrs. A. Heslop	1
Miss M. S. Dennett	1	Mrs. H. Lyman	1
Mrs. R. F. Jones	2	Miss G. Stevenson	1
Miss E. C. Grose	1	Mrs. F. Alexander	1
Mrs. Heilly	1	Miss H. Weaver	2
Mrs. Graven	1	Mrs. Violet Jones	2
Mrs. Montgomery	1	Mrs. Marshall	1
Miss Declina Moore	1	Mrs. F. Corbett	1
Miss Faill	1	Miss S. Jones	1
Miss R. G. Roberts	1	Miss Day	1
Mrs. H. J. Robinson	2	Miss M. Vaughan	1
Mrs. Edgerton	1	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	1
Mrs. A. Court	1	A. M. B.	2
Miss E. Carrie	1	Mrs. Fraser Mackenzie	1
Miss Christie	2	Miss F. Toumlin-Smith	1
Miss C. Lake	1	Miss F. Spong	2
Miss C. Todd	3	Mrs. Rowat	1
Mrs. Selous	1	Miss Bulan	1
Anon	6	Mrs. J. Gulich	1
Mrs. McKeown	1	Miss L. B. A. Hamilton	3
Miss E. Rowlett	1	Mrs. Smyth-Pigott	2
Mrs. J. T. White	3	Mrs. Cameron Swan	1
Women's Enfranchise-ment League, Cape Colony	1	Mrs. Dahl	1
Miss L. Garrett	1	Miss E. Downing	1
Lady Stout	1	Miss M. L. Dowding	1
Lady Constance Lytton	1		

1,348

This week the paper is being sent to new permanent readers in Johannesburg, Salisbury (South Africa), Quebec Brookline (Mass.), Dawson (Yukon) and Penang (Straits Settlement).

At the meeting in Bristol on Monday last, where I was speaking, cards were sent up to the platform with promises from different members to secure 33 new readers for the paper.

In Belfast street sales amount to 10 dozen each week.

A friend writes that she puts the paper each week in four infirmary boxes in the stations in Glasgow, and suggests others should act similarly.

G. V. writes that she will send *VOTES FOR WOMEN* for one month to a district nursing home, where the nurses are keenly interested.

Two sisters write that in addition to securing four new regular readers they dispose of one dozen every week. Others write that, though they have not yet secured new readers, they are taking extra copies, and introducing them to the notice of their friends.

The Misses Cadiz and their band of workers sold twelve dozen copies last week in Dublin, and have now increased their order to fourteen dozen per week.

The Chelsea Union has secured 5 new subscribers.

Miss Margaret Fison, in sending a long list of new subscribers, says:—"I also leave our paper weekly in the waiting room of both stations here. One is also left in the Mechanics' Institute, and three in restaurants. We are having all these papers weekly from the Ipswich shop instead of headquarters, as our shop needs encouragement."

One of the Bath members takes in 12 copies every week to send to doctors, and Mrs. Mansel takes in six copies to send away. At a recent meeting in Peterborough, Mrs. Mansel herself secured 8 new regular readers.

One lady passes her weekly copy on to a nurse who, in turn, sends it to Lingfield Colony. Her mother has promised to take it each week from her newsagent, and a friend has promised to buy a copy once a fortnight from the Putney W.S.P.U. Another lends her copy to as many as will read it.

In Dundee Miss Fraser Smith and Miss McFarlane have been canvassing the shops in populous districts. They go three times a week after office hours; in one street they sell four dozen copies with no difficulty, and in another three dozen copies. Many of the shopkeepers are becoming pretty regular customers, and are taking an interest in the movement. Even to shops where they are refused, they return, and perhaps the third week, admiring their "pluck and perseverance," these people will take a copy. On Saturdays two members tackle the huge crowds which flock to the football matches, and they always sell a few dozen copies. From two to three dozen are sold at the Flower Market, and there is a regular pitch in the centre of the town. Miss Vera Bolotin, a Russian medical student, is presenting a copy every week to the Students' Common Room in Dundee, and also in St. Andrews. Several other new readers have been secured, but they are getting their papers through newsagents.

An Ilford member has accepted, on behalf of her library, one of the copies so generously offered to be sent free to any free library for six months. I have still four other offers, so will members please write at once who want to avail themselves of one of them?

Letters continue to come in telling us of free libraries up and down the country where *VOTES FOR WOMEN* is regularly accepted. These include the Chiswick Free Library "since and before it became a penny paper," East and West Ham, Barry, Eastbourne, Fulham (all three libraries). "They are well read too," says our correspondent. We hear also that some months ago the Committee of the Beaney Institute, Canterbury, were requested to take in the paper, and that seven councillors voted for it and two against. One remarked that *VOTES FOR WOMEN* was more worth the penny than some of the other periodicals already subscribed for. Six of the Bristol libraries have the paper. Members of the Aberdeen Women's Social and Franchise League are supplying the public library and four branch libraries with weekly copies.

F. W. P. L.

## CENSUS RESISTANCE.

The Census Protest scheme is being greeted with much enthusiasm. At the Queen's Hall meeting last Monday, no fewer than 100 of the promise cards were filled in and signed by members of the audience. Upon the promise-card appears a statement concerning the ways in which the Census Protest can be accomplished. It runs as follows:—

### Census Resistance.

1.—I, being a woman Occupier, undertake to refuse to fill up my Census Form, and to write across the form the reason for my refusal.

2.—I, being a Lodger or Boarder, or resident in an hotel, undertake to apply to the Census Authorities for a special form for my own use, and to refuse to fill in the particulars, writing across the form the reason for my refusal.

3.—I, being a male Occupier, undertake not to fill in upon the Census Form any particulars concerning the women inmates of my house, and to write across the form the reason for this action.

4.—I, being a woman unable to protest in any of the ways mentioned above, undertake to adopt such other measures as may be necessary to escape inclusion in the Census return.

Strike out the clauses that do not apply to your case, sign your name and address below, and return in an envelope to—

Miss OLIVE SMITH, W.S.P.U.,  
5, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

Mr., Mrs., or Miss \_\_\_\_\_

FULL Address \_\_\_\_\_

Direct and active part in the protest may be taken, not only by those who are Occupiers in the ordinary sense of the term but by lodgers and others. One of the officials at the headquarters of the Census Committee in Milbank explained the point by the following statement made to a representative of the *Daily Mirror*:—

"A lodger in a house, occupying his or her own room, is entitled to a separate schedule from the enumerator of the district, which he or she can fill up and leave, enclosed in an envelope, for the enumerator when he calls."

"This privilege will not be denied to boarders in private families or residents in hotels who, for this census night only, may claim to have themselves regarded as 'lodgers,' and so become entitled to a separate schedule."

The local Registrar of Births and Deaths is, we understand, the official to whom lodgers and others who are not occupiers in the ordinary sense should apply for the separate form.

If the authorities decide to take proceedings against an occupier who has refused to fill in the Census form, application is made to the local police-court for a summons, which is served upon the offending person. On the appointed date the Census resister appears in the police-court, and the case is tried by the magistrate in the usual way.

Occupiers who refuse to fill in the Census form are liable to a fine which must not exceed £5.

Many intending protesters have asked what is the alternative to payment of the fine. The alternative is the seizure and sale of goods. But in certain cases imprisonment may be imposed. Thus, where it appears that the convicted person has no goods wherewith to levy distress, or that in the event of a warrant of distress being issued the goods will be insufficient to satisfy the money payable or that the levy of the distress will be more injurious than imprisonment, the Court may order imprisonment.

If the fine imposed does not exceed 10s., then the alternative period of imprisonment cannot exceed 7 days; where the fine exceeds 10s., but does not exceed £1, then a maximum sentence of 14 days' imprisonment can be given; where the fine is between £1 and £5, then the alternative period of imprisonment cannot exceed one month.

A number of questions upon points of detail have been received from those who intend to share in the protest. Answers to these appear below.

One very important point has been raised by a correspondent, who asks whether the Census protest will be carried through if before April 2 the Government should announce their intention of giving full facilities this Session for the passage of the Conciliation Bill. The answer to this obviously is that if the passage of the Bill were assured, the Census protest would be unnecessary.

The general view of the public, so far as it has been expressed, seems to be that the Census protest is a perfectly legitimate form of agitation. Some individuals have, however, expressed dissent. Thus, we have been appealed to to remember that upon the Census will be based legislation affecting the interests of women. We are well aware of this fact, but our fear is that unless women obtain the Vote in the meantime, such legislation, while apparently benevolent, may be contrary to their real interests. Another critic assures us that far from

improving the prospects of the Conciliation Bill, we are diminishing these, and that when Mr. Asquith is again asked to give facilities for the Conciliation Bill, probably after such a display of bad citizenship he will decline to do so. It seems to be forgotten by the gentleman who writes thus, that last year the Prime Minister did not hesitate to veto the Conciliation Bill, notwithstanding the fact that there had been no Census protest, and that there had been a ten months' truce to all forms of militancy.

One most satisfactory result the proposed Census protest has already had; it has attracted the attention and aroused the interest of statisticians and social reformers.

### Questions on Resisting the Census.

1. Could I take a cottage in the country for a week and refuse to fill in the Census paper, though I be not there on the Sunday night? I would write on it on the Sunday or Monday, but I want to be in London for Sunday night. Is this practicable?

Yes.

2. I understand that there is no penalty if a woman lodger should simply evade the Census. Is this so?

Yes.

3. Where can Census forms, containing the questions asked, be obtained?

The Census forms will be delivered by the Enumerator during the week preceding the night of the Census.

4. A lady is willing to refuse to fill in the Census, but she cannot risk publicity. She is willing to pay the fine, so would she have to appear in Court?

No doubt her solicitor could represent her in Court.

5. If there were an all-night meeting might there not be spies watching to count who goes in and out, and so an approximate return might be made?

This would be exceedingly difficult, and it must be remembered that the mere counting of heads is only one of the objects of the Census. A very great deal of intimate and detailed information has to be given which the authorities cannot possibly obtain by this method.

6. It is said that not only those sleeping on the premises on Sunday night, but also those arriving on Monday, are to be put down. Can you tell me whether this is correct?

The occupier is required to include in the Census return any member of the household who has been absent during the night but returns in the morning, and has not been included in any other Census form. Therefore Census resisters living in the house of an occupier who is hostile to this protest should make a point of being away until after 12 noon on Monday, April 3. It is quite easy to arrange to spend the morning in the house of a friend, and in connection with the protest many offers of hospitality have been made. Women engaged in earning their living can go straight to their work.

7. Would it be of any use if I went to a country hotel for the night?

The fact that you are staying in the hotel will be recorded by the hotel proprietor, but further facts you can refuse to supply.

8. Would it do if I filled my house with other resisting women and went away myself for the night?

Yes. If the intention is to avoid liability you can lend your house for the night, asking no questions as to the people who are going to stay there. If you do not know you cannot be responsible for giving information.

9. I am a boarder in a house and, of course, do not wish to involve other people in the consequences of such action.

Apply to the Enumerator of the district, who is the local Registrar of Births and Deaths, for a separate form and then no one else will be responsible.

10. I am willing to sublet (nominally) my flat to a Suffragette who is courageous enough to face prison for the cause. I should be glad to know for certain how far I should be legally responsible.

You would not be responsible. The lady to whom you let the flat would be the only person liable.

11. We live in unfurnished apartments, so how do we manage, supposing our landlady will not help us and gives as much information as she can about us?

You should apply for a separate census form, and the landlady will not be expected to give any information concerning you.

12. Will a fine cover the liability?

Yes.

13. As an occupier I intend to resist and am willing to be imprisoned. My servants are willing to follow my example in refusing. What would be the result to them?

They are not responsible, for you alone as occupier are responsible, and no punishment can be meted out to them for their refusal.

14. Will you suggest to us women at a school how we can join the ranks of resisters to the Census? We are all members of the W.S.P.U., the matron, the nurse and the secretary of a boy's school are anxious to support the Union.

Apply for separate forms so that you are not counted in the general school returns.

15. I share rooms with a friend. She prefers to be counted but will refuse any information regarding myself. You will understand that I would rather stay out all night than drag her into any complications through my action!

Apply for a separate Census paper for your own use and then your friend will not be responsible.

16. Can you tell me my position: I am coming to live in London, and have taken a flat and shall be in residence before April 2. The flat is taken in my husband's name but he will be away at the time.

You and not your husband will be responsible, and you and not your husband will incur the penalty if you refuse to fill in the Census paper.

(Copies of the Census Acts may be obtained from any Bookseller, or from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.3)

## THE DEPUTATION.

Since last week several new names have been added to the Deputation list. One volunteer writes:—"I have decided to join the next deputation, and I shall be glad if you will enrol me. Since definitely deciding I have been filled with a feeling of calm, so different from what I have experienced on all the other deputations, when I felt that my 'duties' prevented my joining. Now I have no duty but one, and that is to prepare for active service if I am called upon."

Seeing in the *Evening Times* an unfriendly leaderette on the subject of the Conciliation Committee's memorandum, Mrs. Alice Green at once wrote to Clements Inn from Brussels announcing her intention of joining the deputation and sent to the *Evening Times* the following letter, which appeared in their issue of February 27.

The leaderette, which appeared in yesterday's *Evening Times*, I consider a gross libel to ladies like the suffragettes, and, in consequence, offer my humble services for the next deputation, "should one be necessary"; and whatever the consequence may be, I consider the one who is responsible for this insulting article is to blame. I may add I have just returned from England, and when there heard from the ladies themselves what really took place at the last deputation, and could not have believed from anyone but the ladies that anything so revolting in the extreme could possibly take place in what used to be "good old England," and by Britshers. The truth is you men are afraid of the true facts coming to light, for it cannot be that you are ignorant of the fact that two brave women lost their lives owing to the last deputation. So much for the true British pluck and chivalry of which one hears so much and sees so little. Perhaps it is like the money and work—left the country, for which we have to thank a corrupt Government, a corrupt Press, and an ignorant public.

Among the new members of the deputation enrolled during the week are four from Leicester and one from Ireland.

C. H. P.

## TAX RESISTANCE.

One of the weapons of opposition which will be employed by women will be "tax resistance." Those who are proposing to do this will do well to make themselves acquainted, as far as possible, with the law on the question, and we recommend them to apply to the offices of the Women's Tax Resistance League at 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., whose Secretary, Mrs. Kington Parkes, will be pleased to supply them with information. The League has taken over all the work in connection with this form of protest, and the Secretary will gladly give all particulars from the offices of the League.

## Debenham & Freebody.

Wigmore Street, London, W.

## NEW SPRING TAILOR MADES

Our Stock of Early Spring Coats and Skirts is exceptionally large and well assorted. It contains a large number of inexpensive garments, adapted from the newest French models and all thoroughly well made by skilled men tailors.



Coat and Skirt (as sketch), in new Spring tweeds and suiting, perfectly cut and finished.

£4

# THE CHARGES AGAINST THE POLICE.

**The Home Secretary Refuses to Grant a Public Inquiry.**

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. Snowden asked if the Home Secretary had received a memorandum accompanying a request for a public inquiry into the conduct of the Metropolitan Police on November 18, 22, and 23 last; if such memorandum had had his consideration; and what reply had been given to the request for an inquiry.

Mr. Churchill, in reply, said he had received the memorandum referred to, and had considered it carefully. It conveyed a large number of charges against the police, which, if there were any truth in them, should have been made at the time, and not after the lapse of three months—(hear, hear)—and should, if they could be supported by evidence, have been preferred in a police-court. (Hear, hear.) His reply to the memorandum was, therefore, to the effect that the proper course would be to prefer the charges in the ordinary way in a police-court, where evidence could be taken on oath and tested by cross-examination, and where the accused would have an opportunity of answering specific accusations. This was the remedy which the law provided, and, in his opinion, there was no other satisfactory way of ascertaining the truth of any specific charge. He had made inquiry of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police with regard to certain general statements included in the memorandum, and found them to be devoid of foundation. (Cheers.) There was no truth in the statement that the police had instructions which led them to terrorise and maltreat the women. On the contrary, the superintendent in charge impressed on them that as they would have to deal with women they must act with restraint and moderation, using no more force than was necessary. The statement that there were a large number of plain-clothes officers in the crowd who were guilty of indecency was equally false. (Cheers.) Apart from some detective specially summoned when it was found that a large number of pickpockets and thieves were present, not more than a dozen plain-clothes officers were employed, and, with the exception of one who assisted in an arrest, none of them handled the women in any way, but the crowd contained a large number of reckless persons quite capable of indulging in gross conduct. It was quite possible some of these were guilty of indecency, and for their presence in Parliament Square the women themselves were responsible. Of the 200 arrested not one complained of being hurt, or made any charge of undue violence or misconduct against the police. If any charge could be made against any individual it could even now be investigated, either by the courts or by the police, but he was not prepared to grant an inquiry into vague and general charges brought by irresponsible persons long after the event. (Loud cheers.)

## PRESS VIEWS.

### THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN.

We have received from Mr. H. N. Brailsford a printed copy of a memorandum on the treatment of the Women Suffragists' deputations by the police which was laid before the Conciliation Committee on February 2, and has since been transmitted to Mr. Churchill, along with a demand for a public inquiry. The allegations refer to the disorders of November 18 and the days following at the close of the last Parliament. At the time statements were freely made at Suffragist meetings and in the Press that undue violence, and in some cases a graver form of maltreatment, had been used by the police, and many of us would have been glad to see some of the cases then described made the occasion of a prosecution at which the facts could have been tested. The Suffrage societies, however, have preferred to sift their facts and arrange them in this memorandum to the Home Secretary, and, in fact of the exceedingly grave charges which it contains, we do not see how Mr. Churchill can refuse an inquiry. Indeed, the Home Office is no doubt anxious for a full, searching, and impartial investigation. For, apart from what is, if it is substantiated, a hideous wrong to many brave and defenceless women, the honour of the police is at stake. The Conciliation Committee is a non-party body; it includes many experienced members of Parliament, and it is not to be supposed that they would have lent their names to the memorandum unless they were satisfied that an overwhelming *prima facie* case existed for inquiry. The treatment by the police of the Women Suffragists on the three occasions dealt with seems to have gone far beyond anything which had happened previously, and if the facts can be substantiated they are a clear infraction of the police regulations. As such they call for serious notice, alike in the interests of the public and of the discipline of the police. However little the women's action may command itself to even convinced Suffragists, particularly on the later occasions, they have a right to be protected from illegal violence. An inquiry cannot but be welcomed by the police themselves. Hitherto, as a rule, they have behaved towards the women with the consideration and forbearance one would expect from an admirable force. The allegations now made are therefore all the more surprising, and an inquiry all the more necessary.

The body of detailed evidence supplied to the Home Secretary, from which we quote extracts, contains over a hundred and thirty individual statements. With regard to these, it is generally asserted that overmuch violence was used. Our police are not selected for this

kind of work, and the type of constable who may be capable and ruthlessly efficient in the arrest of the criminal ruffians of the East End may easily, in excitement, use his exceptional muscular power, without realising it, to inflict serious and permanent injury on the women whom he has orders to impede or disperse. But there is a graver matter than the mere exercise, serious though it be, of ordinary roughness of handling. The orders of the police were apparently to avoid, if possible, arrest, and the result of these orders, where carried out in the face of women who were determined either to succeed in their purpose or to be taken in charge, seems to have been to set going a system of deliberate torture and terrorism. That is the first part of the Suffragists' indictment of the police. Blows and beating, the twisting of arms and fingers, treatment which resulted in bruises and in physical injury to weak hearts and highly-strung nerves, lasting many weeks after the event, are what the memorandum has to record. Most of the assaults were not capable of justification, being dealt on quite passive members of the demonstration; and however irritating to restraint and temper the conduct of the deputations may have been, aggressiveness and vindictiveness are not to be condoned. The second part of the indictment is more serious still. Apart from the allegation of assaults wantonly committed to give pain and torture, twenty-nine of the statements allege acts of indecency. The matter is a difficult one to discuss in print, and women describe such treatment only with the greatest reluctance. But, painful though it is, it is the part of the memorandum which demands the most thorough and searching investigation, and should the inquiry substantiate it, the most severe and decisive action on the part of the authorities. We look with confidence to the Home Secretary to see that justice is done.

### THE SPECTATOR.

The charges in the memorandum are charges of worse things than casual brutalities—deliberately thought-out tortures. We imagine that Mr. Churchill will see fit to grant an inquiry, not merely because the request comes from a non-party organisation, but because he owes it to the police that they should not be allowed to rest under such very grave imputations—imputations so entirely at variance with their high records—if they can rebut them. The police, we are sure, will not only not fear but will welcome an impartial investigation.

### EASTERN MORNING NEWS.

#### "More than We can Stand."

However little sympathy many people may have with some of the methods of the women suffragists, no reasonable-minded person can read without indignation the memorandum which the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee for Women's Suffrage has drawn up for presentation to the Home Secretary. In this document a series of very grave charges is made against the London police. The allegations are not entirely new. We have heard of them from time to time in isolated instances. They were a very ugly look then, but when the whole sum of them is brought together in such a report as we have before us, the story becomes one of great shame and humiliation. The Suffragettes have admittedly taken to extreme measures by adopting such whole-hearted and reckless tactics to draw attention to their cause as they have done, but that is no reason why they should be made the sport of brutal and dirty-minded policemen and the objects of disgusting license from the mob of onlookers. However offensive companies of women may become—whether they are Suffragettes or members of any other body fighting publicly to gain their ends—this country is not going to stand by and see them degraded and insulted by men who at heart can be little short of loathsome blackguards. There are ways and means of dealing with turbulent women who may assemble in the streets and draw crowds of people without the representatives of the law letting loose their low animal passions. The memorandum is of so serious a character that we do not see how the Home Secretary can refuse the request that an inquiry should be held. The report makes definite charges on the score of deliberate brutality and indecency; and if all—or half—that is said regarding these charges is true—and we do not for a moment suggest that there is either untruth or exaggeration in the evidence—it is high time, for the sake of common decency, that strong measures were taken to make it impossible that there should be any ground for complaint in the future. Englishmen will not stand by and tolerate such outrages as are described in the report which has been brought to the notice of Mr. Churchill. The police have a difficult duty to perform, and as a body . . . they do their work well. But there are men, it would seem, who are not to be trusted to keep their senses in every kind of emergency that may arise. The London police work under a set of carefully prepared rules as set forth in their manual, and if they transgress these rules in their hot-headedness whilst in the midst of a number of excited women they must be made to suffer for their lapses. We are not, as a people, going to stand the indulgence in unnecessary violence towards women, or the deliberate methods of torture practised, or the scandalous acts of indecency to which so many Suffragettes are ready to swear. . . . Three special occasions are selected for purposes of complaint. . . . Enough has been said to show that it is high time something was done to prevent any recurrence of such disgraceful behaviour.

### CHRISTIAN COMMONWEALTH.

We have received from Mr. H. N. Brailsford a document of very grave import. The evidence is voluminous and detailed, and of such a nature as to preclude the possibility of the acts complained of being involuntary, and incidental to a skirmish. . . . British citizens are slow to make accusations against the police, and hitherto the tradition among militant Suffragists has been that it is un-

soldierly to complain; not much importance might be attached to a few isolated charges; but when over a hundred reputable witnesses, who realise the significance of what they are doing, are prepared to give sworn evidence that they have been subjected to savage barbarity and gross indecency by men whose business it is to maintain law and order, a *prima facie* case for a public inquiry has certainly been established, if only in the interests of citizens as a whole. The memorandum rightly submits that the object of such an official investigation should be to ascertain not only whether the charges of aggressive violence, torture, and indecency can be substantiated, but also under what orders the police were acting. We are confident that the most ardent opponents of women's suffrage will be just as eager as the advocates of votes for women that the serious charges now formally made should be thoroughly investigated, and the truth ascertained and published. Mr. Winston Churchill has recently been betraying strong humanitarian impulses; we trust he will handle this grave matter in a way that will satisfy all parties concerned.

### DUNDEE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

In the interests of the police as well as of the women it is only just that the truth should be inquired into at the earliest possible moment. The honour of the police is at stake, and if what has been alleged by the Conciliation Committee for Women's Suffrage is true, the discipline of the force is not what the public had thought it was. . . . Nobody would be surprised, of course, if the police sometimes fail to keep their temper in face of so much irritating work as they were called upon to do while the House of Commons was attacked. But the Suffragettes' indictment goes a great deal further. . . . The Home Secretary will now be looked to to see that justice is done. Only the most searching inquiry can show whether or not the women have suffered a hideous wrong.

The report just issued by the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee for Women's Suffrage is the most terrible indictment of police methods that has ever seen the light. Brutality, the foulest of language, and the most deliberate and offensive obscenity are among the charges made against the police by persons of responsible position, whose evidence in other matters would be regarded as conclusive. There is a demand for inquiry; and even Mr. Asquith's cynical contempt for the woman worker and woman taxpayer can hardly resist it, in the face of the allegations made.

### Financial News.

When women attack the police and attempt to force their way into Westminster, they can only be repelled by force. They cannot expect to be treated with the tenderness with which they would be handed about a drawing-room.

### Liverpool Post.

#### MISS PANKHURST ON THE MEMORANDUM.

Speaking at Queen's Hall, London, on Monday afternoon, on the Conciliation Committee's Memorandum, Miss Christabel Pankhurst said:—

"We have been told that redress can be ob-

### THE CENSUS BOYCOTT.

A correspondent writes:—"I shall be glad to put my studio for the night into the hands of any member who can undertake to make the protest."

The Misses Cecilia and Eva Mackenzie write:—"We shall be glad to resist the census and help by receiving guests. We are jointly responsible householders, with house-room for one hundred Suffragists on census night!"

Suffragettes continue to talk of intention to refuse to fill up the Census papers; but there is no organised rebellion in this direction at present. Indeed, it is not unlikely that the threats offered by the women may bring a check on their proceedings. The utmost penalty for declining to give particulars is said to be £5. But it does not follow that the authorities will be defeated of their aim of getting correct information. Steps can be taken to secure it from other sources; and indeed if the legal powers are not sufficient it is possible even now for the Government to put a short Bill through Parliament to strengthen the position of the officials. But this is not thought necessary.

—*Eastern Morning News.*

### DR. COBB ON THE CENSUS BOYCOTT.

Speaking at a meeting organised by the Kensington W.M.P.U., at Queen's Gate Hall, Kensington, last Tuesday afternoon, the Rev. Dr. Cobb, rector of St. Ethelburga's E.C., in the course of an interesting address on Votes for Women, said that the only way in which liberty was to be gained was by revolt. To refuse to fill in the Census form was, in his opinion, a perfectly logical and justifiable protest which would command itself to self-respecting women. So long as women were excluded from the rights and responsibilities of citizenship they were morally justified in refusing to take their share in the fulfilment of any scheme of civic organisation promoted by the Government. They would have to face pains and penalties, of course, but it was only by such action that they could bring their claim home to the conscience of the rulers of this country. In the past men had won their freedom by making themselves an intolerable nuisance. They had resisted both passively and actively, and it was not until they had made the position embarrassing and dangerous to the Government that their human rights had been won.

tained by prosecuting individual policemen. That is not so. The object of the Conciliation Committee is not to make scapegoats of one or two constables who have acted at the bidding of their superiors. The object of the Committee is to get at those who are really responsible for this brutal attack upon the members of the Deputation, and the prosecution of a few individual policemen, who were simply obeying orders, will not meet the case at all. We know also that in the police court you are prevented from raising certain vital questions. That is to say, you must not ask what was the policy of the Home Office, and what orders were issued to the police. Every inquiry of that kind is ruled out most rigorously. Therefore, you cannot possibly get at the truth by means of police court proceedings.

"Moreover, we say that the police court is not at all the right place for the trial of an issue between the police and the public. It is not in any sense an impartial tribunal. Anybody who has ever been in a police court for half an hour knows that this is true. Only those who have never seen the inside of a police court have any illusions about it. It is well named the *police court*! It belongs to the police; it is their creature; it is a machine for registering their decisions. Wait until we get the Vote! We will try whether we cannot secure the establishment of some more satisfactory court for the purpose of summary jurisdiction than the police court as it exists to-day. Such a court ought to be entirely dissociated from the police. At present they are all one firm—the people who arrest and accuse you, the people who try you, and the people who give evidence against you and the people who pronounce your sentence. The whole thing is an organised hypocrisy and sham. If this were generally known, we should have a great change in a very short time. Fortunately, there are some people who know it—the Suffragettes know it—and when we think of the helpless victims who are turned through the police court as through a mill, without any hope of justice or redress, we are resolved to attack this national scandal as soon as we shall have the power to do so."

"The principle we lay down is this. The police and the court must be absolutely separate and distinct. The arrested man or woman in the dock and the police must come into the court on precisely the same footing. According to the law of the land, the accused is presumed to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty. But in the police court this presumption of innocence in favour of the prisoner in the dock does not exist. On the contrary, he or she is presumed to be guilty from the very outset. The whole evil system must be changed."

"Conditions in the police court being what they are, it would be madness for members of our deputation to bring police court proceedings. If Mr. Winston Churchill challenges us to do that, his challenge will be treated with the contempt it deserves."

### MR. BRAILSFORD'S THANKS.

Mr. Brailsford asks us to convey his thanks to all who have sent him their evidence for the purposes of his inquiry into the conduct of the police towards the women's deputation. He has found it impossible to answer all the letters he has received, but wishes us to assure all who wrote to him that their letters have none the less received careful attention.

Women must go on fighting. He felt that the members of that audience might reply, "It is all very well for you to approve of our Census protest; you have not to suffer the consequences." That was quite true. His liberty had been won for him by those who had gone before, but he was found to impress upon women the truth that nothing but determination, nothing but self-sacrifice, nothing but the cheerful facing of such consequences as were involved in their revolt would bring them and their cause to victory.

### TAX RESISTANCE.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst has sent the following letter to the Surveyor of Taxes in response to his renewed application.

"Sir,—In reply to your communication of the 22nd inst., I have to inform you that I have a conscientious objection to paying income-tax until such time as the law enables me to qualify for a Parliamentary vote. Accordingly, I must decline absolutely to comply with your request for payment. For your information I may add that I possess no goods which can be distrained upon, so that it is impossible for you to recover the money.—Yours faithfully,

"CHRISTABEL PANKHURST."

### A PRESS VIEW.

The Suffragists were justly indignant at Mr. Asquith's Veto on Private Members' time before Easter, but are elated at securing first and second place after. Their claim is a long delayed act of justice, and it now only remains for the Government of the day to put its principles before party, and extend the Parliamentary franchise to properly qualified women at an early date. We are informed that Mrs. Pankhurst's Union is now in a stronger position than ever, and that women of all ranks in society, science, politics, religion, and commerce are sending in their names as volunteers for the next deputation, which will be over a thousand strong, and will at once proceed to the "People's House," should the Government again thwart their claim. It would not be a brilliant Coronation of George V, with a thousand of his most respected subjects in prison, possibly among the number the wives and sisters of peers, who ought to have been present at the Coronation festivities! We can only congratulate the women on their luck, and hope the Government this time really mean business.—*Cheltenham Leader-Off.*

## "A DEBT OF HONOUR."

In all the struggles of men for political enfranchisement they have been loyally helped by women. And now some of the best men are paying back the debt of honour; they have seen how hard is the fight of the women for their own enfranchisement, and they have come forward to help. Already personal liberty has been sacrificed (Mr. Hugh Franklin has spent six weeks in prison), and now another man, Mr. Abbey, is serving a three weeks' sentence in the women's cause.

### MEN ARRESTED AT DOWNING STREET.

On Wednesday the Men's Political Union made a splendid attempt to reach the Council Chamber at No. 10, Downing Street, while a Cabinet meeting was in progress. Mr. Abbey succeeded in climbing on to the wall. Detectives and policemen, however, sprang up from all sides, and two men were arrested.

The men—Alfred J. Abbey and Henry Garrett—were charged at Bow Street on the same day with behaving in disorderly manner by trying to scale the wall of the back garden at No. 10, Downing Street, the official residence of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Mussett, after opening the case for the prosecution, said that he did not propose to read a letter which had been found lying near Downing Street, as it would only advertise the grievance as well as the men. Inspector Parker said that the Council Chamber adjoined the garden, and that he saw defendants trying to scale the wall; he therefore arrested them.

The Magistrate (Sir Albert De Rutzen) said that the attempt to get over the wall was disorderly behaviour. Mr. Abbey asked that the letter might be read, as it would explain his conduct. No questions were put either to the detective or to Police-constable AR 64, who also gave evidence of arrest. Mr. Garrett agreed to be bound over in his own recognisances in £10 to be of good behaviour for three months. Mr. Abbey refused to be bound over, and said he did not consider his conduct was disorderly, as his object in trying to gain admission to the Cabinet meeting was to lay before His Majesty's Ministers the importance of the extension of the Parliamentary Vote to women by the Government. He said, "I have worked for some time in this movement in a perfectly constitutional way, and have observed that in spite of Woman Suffrage Bills receiving large majorities the Cabinet has prevented them being carried into law."

The Magistrate said: "You have no right to get over into the Prime Minister's garden." In reply to this, Mr. Abbey said he wished to reach the Council Chamber because it was impossible to bring the matter to the notice of the Ministers in any other way.

The magistrate then said he would have to go to prison for twenty-one days in the second division unless he would agree to be bound over, and on Mr. Abbey's refusal the magistrate said that he could find a surety. This, however, had no effect upon his resolution, and he went to prison.

Mr. Hugh A. Franklin was also arrested, but not charged.

The following is a copy of the letter found near Downing Street, which Mr. Mussett did not read:

To His Majesty's Ministers,  
10, Downing Street.  
15, Buckingham Street,  
London, W.C.

Sirs.—Having noted during the past few years your indifferent attitude to the women of Britain, who are fighting for their political freedom, I have chosen this method of bringing to your notice the urgency of their claim. The necessity for determined action on the part of men as well as of women is proved by your continued refusals to grant full facilities for the passing into law of a measure of women's enfranchisement, which in two successive Parliaments has received the assent of overwhelming majorities of the people's representatives in the House of Commons. While you use the phrase "The will of the people must prevail" as a party cry against the House of Lords, you as the Cabinet have repeatedly and deliberately thwarted the will of the people as expressed by their elected representatives in the Commons where Woman Suffrage Bills have been concerned. Such hypocrisy is revolting to all honest and fair-minded men, and I therefore take such steps as are open to me to convey to you my detestation of your illiberal conduct and lack of principle.—I have the honour to remain, yours faithfully,

ALFRED J. ABBEY.

### MR. BIRRELL.

The first protest of the season was made last Friday at the Mansion House, on the occasion of a meeting held there in honour of the Charles Dickens Centenary. A distinguished company met in honour of the king of novelists, and a packed audience listened to the remarks of the Lord Mayor, the Earl of Rosebery, Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Sir Edward Clarke, and other speakers. Mr. Israel Zangwill and other well-known people were on the platform, amongst them Mr. Birrell, whose presence there it was that caused the greatest living issue of the day to be bound up in the appeal to the generosity and gratitude of the present generation towards a great writer and great humanitarian.

Lord Rosebery spoke of our debt of honour to Dickens; women were present to remind a Liberal Minister of his debt of honour to them.

When Mr. Birrell rose to speak one of the ladies, seated only a few rows from him in the audience, also rose and said, "Mr. Birrell," at the same time chaining herself to the chair in front of her. Mr. Birrell tried to speak against her, then shrung his shoulders and sat down. The lady then said she was sorry to interrupt, but she had come there with a message to Mr. Birrell from the women of the country, and the message must be delivered.

The women had been fighting for this vote for fifty years and more, and Mr. Birrell himself said last year that this year, 1911, their chance would come. She hoped he would remember this message, as the women had determined to get votes this Session.

By this time several stewards and two policemen were standing round the disturber of the meeting, deliberating what to do with her. Finally, a procession consisting of chair, Suffragette, and policemen marched out. But Suffragettes do not fight alone now! There were men in the audience, and Mr. Birrell, on resuming his speech, was asked by a gentleman why, if he were really in favour of Woman Suffrage, he did not resign from the Cabinet on this question; and later another man got up and asked if the stamp of citizenship were not of more importance than the Dickens stamp everyone had spoken of, and if so, why did they not stamp women as citizens by giving them the vote.

### MR. HARROUD.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Harcourt was similarly summoned at a meeting at the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi. A member of the Men's Political Union who was present got up and said, "Mr. Harcourt, may I ask you when is the Government going to do its duty by giving time for the passing of a Woman Suffrage Bill? This question has now become so urgent that we cannot stand upon ceremony in pressing it upon you." Mr. Harcourt is reported to have smiled weakly, and the interrupter was ejected amidst considerable disturbance.

### LORD MORLEY.

On leaving the Guildhall last Monday, Lord Morley was questioned by a man on the Government's intentions with regard to Suffrage.

### AN IMPRESSION.

A correspondent who expresses dissent from some of the methods adopted by the Women's Social and Political Union writes as follows concerning impression of a protest which won her complete approval:—"I am writing to tell you of an incident which I witnessed last week. At the launching of the 'Thunderer,' a boy of about thirteen was taken very ill, and one of two ladies ran to his assistance; the boy's father seemed helpless. I was struck with the capable manner in which this lady handled the sick child. She hardly noticed the great event which was going on, but went on with her work, evidently much to the relief of the boy's father. I spoke to the lady after the child was taken away, and asked her if she understood giving first aid, and she told me she had a medal for it. To my great surprise I afterwards saw the same lady fixing up a 'Votes for Women' banner in the place where refreshments were served. I could not help admiring her. More such actions as these will gain you sympathy."

### M.P.'S ON THE BILL.

Speaking at a meeting of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association last week, at the Curzon Hotel, Mayfair, when Lady Walloughby de Brooke was hostess, Mr. C. S. Goldman, M.P., said that as the Prime Minister had not given facilities for the introduction and passage of the Bill this session, it had failed to private members to take up the question. If the second reading was carried by a considerable majority he did not see how Mr. Asquith and the Government could refuse to yield to the pressure. If the Prime Minister held that he had a mandate from the country for great national questions which were not accepted by all his supporters, how much more were the supporters of Women's Suffrage justified in saying that they, too, had a mandate for their Bill? The members who had supported the measure in the previous Parliament had been re-elected, and the constituencies had thereby reaffirmed their action.

### MR. HARWOOD CONVERTED?

A deputation of the Bolton Women's Suffrage Association waited upon Mr. George Harwood, M.P., at the Reform Club, Bolton, on Saturday afternoon, and asked him to present to Parliament a petition asking the Government to pass the Conciliation Bill. In consenting to do this Mr. Harwood made an interesting statement of his attitude towards the Votes for Women movement. He said he would never support a Bill until he had seen the exact terms. He did not believe in women having a vote simply as women; he had never believed in it and never should. He thought the body politic might be improved by a small infusion of women—a very different thing. The simplest course would be to admit them on the same terms to Parliamentary affairs as they did in municipal affairs. If the conciliation scheme was frankly being accepted as a settlement of the matter he should vote for it in all probability. He was bitterly and absolutely opposed to women having votes on the same terms as men. That was the key to his position. If there was any danger of the larger issue being developed out of this proposal he would be bound to oppose it.

### "A SCANDAL."

Mr. Price, M.P., speaking at a meeting of the W.E.L. in Edinburgh on February 23, said he believed it was the duty of the Government this session to allow the Women's Suffrage Bill to go through. The House of Commons had passed resolutions demanding time for this measure, and no Government had the right to over-ride the decision of the House of Commons. This question had been delayed too long. It was nothing short of a scandal.

Votes for Women has been inscribed in the Portuguese Republic Constitutions, and the Society of the Solidarité des Femmes has held a meeting to celebrate this concession to justice on the part of the Ministers. Imagine England being in the rear-guard of Portugal!—Anglo-Russian.

On Saturday, February 25, the Russian plague mission left St. Petersburg for Kharbin. The mission was headed by Professor Zabolotny, and consisted of five doctors, two of whom were women, and three nurses, one being Princess Dolgorukoff.

NOW PROCEEDING AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL MARCH 22.

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3 yards long, Special Sale Price, 3/11 per pair.

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Ivory only. 52 inches wide.  
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A Limited Stock only.

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Ivory only. 52 inches wide.  
3 yards long, Special Sale Price, 11s. 6d. per pair.

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Ivory only. 52 inches wide.  
3½ yards long, Special Sale Price, 12s. 6d. per pair.  
Remarkable Value.

### EMBROIDERED, AND MARIE ANTOINETTE REAL LACE CURTAINS.

No. 317. EMBROIDERED CURTAIN.  
Ivory only.  
54 inches wide.  
3½ yards long, Special Sale Price, 21s. 6d. per pair.

No. 312. MARIE ANTOINETTE REAL LACE CURTAIN.  
White only. Single border.  
Special Sale Price, 16s. 6d. per pair.  
50 pairs only.

### REAL FRENCH LACE CURTAINS.

No. 3202. WHITE ONLY.  
Single border, 3½ yards long, Special Sale Price, 12s. 6d. per pair.  
Double border, 3½ yards long, Special Sale Price, 22s. 6d. per pair.

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## WOMAN AND LABOUR.

### PART I.—A SCRIPTURE.

Two masterpieces of literature that have stood the test of time owe their origin to the great movement of the Emancipation of Women. "The Vindication of the Rights of Women" was written over one hundred years ago by Mary Wollstonecraft, the pioneer who boldly maintained the human equality of the two sexes that together constitute humanity. For the past fifty years "The Subjection of Women," written by John Stuart Mill, has been the Testament of the Suffragist Movement, and now within the last few days there has been given to the world a book which is destined to become a scripture infinitely precious to those of us who have felt already the forces of regeneration at work in ourselves and in the world; a book that is at one and the same time a prophecy and a gospel. "Woman and Labour,"\* by Olive Schreiner, is a priceless gift to awakened and awakening womanhood.

It is not a book to be borrowed from the circulating library, to be read once and then put aside. It is a book that everyone of us must have for our own, as a necessity of everyday mental and moral life. It must be studied, marked, learned, and inwardly digested. It must be made the basis of thought and meditation until we have the vision of the great inheritance which is to be won as the result of our spiritual struggle. For this volume is no mere glorified political pamphlet. It is scarcely at all a plea for the vote. Although women's demand for full political power is taken for granted throughout, the scope of this book is something far greater than that. It is a great historic epic of woman—the race-bearer, woman the life-giver, struggling through the eras of primitive savagery, plodding through the deserts of so-called civilisation, with humanity in her arms, marching ceaselessly onward to an inheritance which awaits her and her children, an inheritance which is very soon to be entered and claimed as her own.

And yet it is but a fragment of a far greater and more comprehensive work. In the preface we learn the tragic and heart-breaking story of the destruction of a lifetime's accomplished task, begun in early youth, finished a few months before the outbreak of the South African War. What the world has lost through the wanton destruction by some British soldier of that precious sum of genius, investigation and labour, the present volume, which is but a fragment of a chapter, alone can indicate. A parallel is suggested by the ancient story of the Sibylline books. It will be remembered that a prophetess appeared to a king of Rome bringing with her nine books which she tendered to him for 300 pieces of gold. Her offer was rejected with scoffing contempt. Thereupon the Sibyl went away and burned three books, and returned demanding the same price for the six as she had previously asked for the nine. Again the king treated the suggestion with ridicule. She went away again and burned three more, and these she once more offered for 300 pieces of gold. The king, moved by curiosity, now looked into the books, and discovered that wonderful and precious secrets of wisdom were revealed therein. He purchased the books, and the Sibyl disappeared. The writings were regarded as a priceless treasure, and were preserved during all the days of Rome's greatness in the temple upon the Capitol of the city.

"Woman and Labour" is but a relic of a treasure for ever lost. It is a remembrance of one chapter out of twelve that formed the original volume. It deals mainly with the aspect of the Woman's Movement that is presented by the consideration of the woman parasite who belongs to the wealthy classes, and it hardly touches on the problem presented by the sweated woman and the overworked underpaid industrial woman worker, nor on the tragic injustices done to women as unpaid domestic labourers. In her preface Olive Schreiner defends herself against misconception by stating how fully these relative issues

were dealt with in her comprehensive treatise on the subject. How deeply she feels the present position of the industrial woman can be inferred from the following passage taken from her introduction:

The fact that for equal work equally well performed by a man and by a woman it is ordained that the woman, on the ground of her sex alone, shall receive a less recompense, is the nearest approach to a wilful and unqualified "wrong" in the whole relation of woman to society to-day. That males of enlightenment and equity can for an hour tolerate the existence of this inequality has seemed to me always incomprehensible, and it is only explainable when one regards it as a result of the blinding effects of custom and habit.

The book is dedicated to Lady Constance Lytton, and allusion is made to the splendid part she has played in the particular struggle in which the women of this country are now engaged. The preface concludes with a touching invocation to the men and women of the future, whose freedom the fighters of to-day purchase with the travail of their body and soul.

With the main ideas of the book I propose to deal next week.

E. P. L.

### A "NEW" WOMAN.

Maud Stepney Rawson is, we more than suspect, a Suffragist at heart. Indeed, what woman who knows the inequalities of the professional woman's fight for a living and for art—as this writer certainly does—can fail to be? "Splendid Zipporah" is not, *per se*, a feminist book, although one or two reviewers appear to think it is. It is just a straightforward story of an idealist woman and her fight for a decent living and good art. Zipporah is splendid physically—she stands six foot two in her stockings—and she has a big mind and a big heart. The feeble gibe of a disappointed member of her orchestra that she is an enemy to the woman's movement need not have rankled. The Zipporahs of the world are the best friends of the movement, for they do things that prove the claim of the Suffragist, that women ought to have equal opportunity with men. Zipporah is a musician, and her challenge to the authorities at Holbeck College, when they ask her to undertake more work for no pay, is magnificent. Her old music master has taught her that life is incomplete without "the fourth chord." How she finds the fourth chord the reader must discover, also how she goes on the "open road" as one of a group of travelling players, of her adventures in Spain, her triumphs as conductor of her own orchestra, and of the Silver Ladies, and Puschkov, and the Giffords, and Aunt Checkenden. The roots of the book lie deep down in the Great Cause. At the author's heart is always the burning desire that great art and great love should bring men and women together; sex (the thing that is so baffling to Zipporah and that once or twice, because small men take advantage of it, seems likely to wreck her career) is to be no hindrance, but a help—a splendid force, to be splendidly used in the highest co-operation. Two persons of opposite sexes, wooing one another, are to approach each other on a high equality, as Zipporah and Commandine on the steps at Genoa, and as in the courtship of sovereigns.

### THE SCIENCE OF HOUSEKEEPING.

It is only in the present day that people are beginning to realise the vast importance of housekeeping. For centuries the care of a home and of children has been considered not only as woman's work, but almost as woman's play—requiring no training and no aptitude. The result is not surprising; yet might we rather say it is a marvellous instance of woman's adaptability that homes are on the whole so well managed. It is the homekeeper rather than the home that has suffered from lack of training; she has had to bear tremendous burdens which by the light of a little knowledge might have been lightened. A review of the whole subject, and a plea for its treatment as higher education are contained in a new book, "Household Administration," by Alice Ravenhill and Catherine Schiff (Grant Richards, 5s. net). After an interesting historical sketch, it shows how intimately housekeeping is connected with biology, science, economics, and sanitation, and it concludes with a strong appeal for proper and systematic training in order to reach the ideal—well-managed homes and happy homekeepers.

### A SIDE-LIGHT ON THE MOVEMENT.

"Impatient Griselda" is a witty and well-written novel of modern London life, and can be well recommended for pleasurable reading. It has an additional interest for the Suffragette, in that it deals with the claims of two women to full self-development; half way through the book one would imagine the author thought this was incompatible with married happiness, but in the end he relents, and allows one of his heroines to win fame and a husband! He does not realise that a true marriage should help a great career—not end it—for either man or woman, and he therefore gives his fine creation Delicia rather unconvincing views on marriage and art, which are not compatible with the Higher Feminism which she professes, nor, by the way, is her scorn of the "Vote-huntresses." We are sorry for Mr. North that he does not see anywhere below the surface of the militant suffrage movement, and we hope he may be at the Albert Hall on March 23. The book, though, is decidedly clever and original. (By Laurence North, London, Martin Secker, 6s. net.)

### WILL MR ASQUITH GIVE WAY?

The Men's Political Union have brought out a new leaflet, under the above title, written by Mr. Pethick Lawrence. It can be obtained from the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C., price 9d. per hundred, 6s. per thousand.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Mazzini," and other Essays. By Henry Demarest Lloyd. London: Putnam's Sons. 6s. net.

"A Short History of Women's Rights." By Eugene A. Becker. London: Putnam's Sons. 6s. net.

"Thoughts on Ultimate Problems." By F. W. Frankland, J.P. London: David Nutt. 1s. 6d. net.

"The Englishwoman." March. London: Sidgwick and Jackson. 1s. net.

"Woman At Home." March. London: Newnes. 4d. net.

"Splendid Zipporah." (London: Methuen. 6s.)



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## THE HOUSEHOLD FRANCHISE FOR WOMEN.

(A New Leaflet, issued by the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, under the title "The Conciliation Bill Explained," No. 79, price 9d. per 100, 6s. per 1,000, post free.)

### What is the Conciliation Bill?

An attempt to bring all political parties together in support of a moderate and practical plan for giving votes to women. The Bill was drafted by a committee of fifty M.P.'s, representing all four parties in the House.

It succeeded so well that, last year (1910), on July 12, it was carried on the second reading by a majority of 110—a larger majority than the Budget got.

Among those who voted for it were:

Mr. Birrell	Mr. Balfour
Mr. John Burns	Mr. Bonar Law
Sir Edward Grey	Mr. Lyttelton
Mr. Haldane	Mr. Wyndham
Mr. Barnes	Mr. Devlin
Mr. Keir Hardie	Mr. Healy
Mr. Shackleton	Mr. Kettle
Mr. Snowden	Mr. W. Redmond

### Will it Give Votes to All Women?

No! It will give votes only to women who pay rates and taxes (whether directly or as part of the rent). These women already have a vote for Town and County Councils. There is no dangerous innovation here. It is common sense that a woman who can choose a County Councillor can also choose an M.P.

### What Women will Get the Vote?

**Women Householders.** A Householder is a woman who inhabits a dwelling-house, or part of a house over which she has full control, however small it may be, and however low its value. A duchess may get a vote for her palace, and a charwoman for her cottage, or (if she has full control) even for a single room. The household franchise is fair to all classes.

### Why are these Women chosen?

Because they are heads of households which at present are unrepresented. Every man who is the head of a house may qualify as a voter. These women have the same responsibilities as men householders. More than half of them are widows, and many have children dependent on them. The rest are chiefly single women earning their own living.

### What about Married Women?

A wife will not get the vote unless the house is rented in her name. But a woman will not be disqualified simply because she is married. This means that a sailor, a fisherman, or a commercial traveller, who is often away from home when the election comes on, may arrange to register his house in his wife's name, and so give her the vote. Thus every household will be represented. In Dundee, a seaport town, it has been ascertained that 370 married women will get the vote under this clause.

### How many Women will get the Vote?

About One Million in the three Kingdoms.

### Will it stop there?

That depends on men. They will still be the vast majority of the electors. There are seven and a half millions of men voters.

### Is the Bill fair to the working classes?

Well, the Labour Party thinks so. Mr. Shackleton introduced it last year. Thirty-two Labour members voted for it, and only two against it.

Look at these figures, which have just been reached (February, 1911) by a systematic house-to-house inquiry, supervised in each town by committees of leading citizens of all parties.

In Dundee out of 3,866 women householders on the municipal roll it was found that 2,177, or more than half, live in one or two-roomed dwellings. Some 1,178 women live in three or four-roomed dwellings. Only 511 live in houses of five or more rooms.

In Dundee 89 per cent. of these women householders are either weekly wage-earners or working-class housewives. In Carnarvon (a small residential town with no industry) 73 per cent. of the women householders are either wage-earners or working-class housewives who keep no servant. In Bangor the percentage of working-class women is 76. On the average fully eight out of every ten women voters will belong to the working class. Surely this is democratic enough.

### Why was not the Bill passed last year?

Because the Prime Minister refused to give time. Yet Parliament had never had less to do than it had last session. There never is time for a women's Bill. Six Bills to give votes to women have passed their second reading since 1870, and none of them has been allowed to go further. Is this your notion of fair play?

### Does the country approve of the Bill?

No less than 36 City or Town Councils have now (February, 1911) petitioned or passed resolutions urging that the Bill may become law. These include the City Councils of—

Bradford.	Dundee.	Liverpool.
Cardiff.	Hull.	Manchester.
Dublin.	Glasgow.	Nottingham.

Several of these Councils voted unanimously for the Bill.

**Electors!** Our Bill is again before Parliament. Tell your Member to insist that the Government must give time for all its stages in the present session.

The will of the people as expressed by their elected representatives must prevail. That is Mr. Asquith's own watchword.

### Support the Bill

Because it is just.

Because it is moderate.

Because it is democratic.

Because women have the same need of the vote as men, to protect them against unjust laws and unfair taxes.

Because honest men are tired of seeing the question played with.

Because the women have earned success by their pluck and perseverance.

Here is the Text of the Bill, which has been slightly modified this year, so as to remove all possibility of plural or faggot voting.

1.—Every woman possessed of a household qualification within the meaning of The Representation of the People Act (1884) shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.

2.—For the purposes of this Act, a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be registered as voters in the same Parliamentary Borough or County Division.

## W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

### London Free Meetings.

Next Monday afternoon's meeting at Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., at 3 p.m., promises to be a very interesting one. Among the speakers will be the Rev. Percy Dearmer, M.A., and Miss Auriol Lee has kindly promised to recite. Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., will take the chair. We regret that owing to professional engagements the Princess Bariatinski will not be able to be present as announced last week. The date of her postponed visit will be announced later. Friends are asked to make this meeting widely known, and thus ensure a crowded hall. Mr. F. W. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Douglas Smith will speak at the Steinway Hall meeting on Thursday, March 9, at 8 p.m. These meetings are held every week, there is no charge for admission, and similar meetings are held weekly in all centres throughout the country where the Union is represented (see pp. 359 et seq.).

### Christmas Fair.

The W.S.P.U. will hold a Christmas Fair in London. Further particulars will be announced later on.

### The Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

A number of new publications are being issued by the Woman's Press, and members will be glad to know that the report of the debate in the Australian Senate, of which VOTES FOR WOMEN published a précis recently, is now ready in pamphlet form, price 1d. Mr. Laurence Housman's "Lysistrata" will be ready on March 13. Mrs. Knight has secured a number of copies of "The Convert" by Elizabeth Robins, and is able to make a special offer of these to our readers at 1s. 6d. each.

## The Woman's Press

156, Charing Cross Road.

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#### TREATMENT OF THE WOMEN'S DEPUTATIONS BY THE POLICE.

Being a copy of a Memorandum forwarded by the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee for Woman Suffrage to the Home Office, accompanying a request for a Public Enquiry into the Conduct of the Police. 2s. 6d. per 100; £1 per 1,000, post free.

### AUSTRALIA'S ADVICE.

Report of the Debate in the Australian Senate on the Votes for Women Resolution on November 17, 1910. Ready in a few days.

Price one penny.

### MILITANT METHODS IN HISTORY.

The Woman's Press are publishing in pamphlet form Joseph Clayton's articles, "Militant Methods in History," which recently appeared in "VOTES FOR WOMEN." Ready next week.

Price one penny.

### LYSISTRATA.

The Woman's Press will publish on March 13 Laurence Housman's wonderful paraphrase of Aristophanes' "Lysistrata." In the press. Paper covers, 6d. net. Cloth, 1s. net.

### PAYMENT OF SEAMEN:

A Pamphlet (on Sale by the Woman's Press), giving full details of the Suffering of Wives under the present system. By E. Mahler and E. F. Rathbone. Price one penny.

### ETHICS OF THE MILITANT MOVEMENT.

A Leaflet by Lady Sybil Smith. Now Ready. 6d. a hundred; 6s. a thousand, post free.

### THE NEW BILL FOR WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT.

Mr. Brailsford's leaflet on "The New Bill for Women's Enfranchisement." Now Ready. 6d. a hundred; 6s. a thousand.

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Articles and News contributed for insertion in VOTES FOR WOMEN should be sent to The Editors, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C., at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

The Editors cannot hold themselves in any way responsible for the return of unused manuscripts, though they will endeavour as far as possible to return them when requested if stamps for postage are enclosed.

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#### PROGRAMME.

MORNING, 11 o'clock. Chairman, W. S. CLARK. "The Limitation of Rescue Work as a Check to Immorality," to be opened by Mrs. Bramwell Booth.

AFTERNOON, 2.30 o'clock. Chairman, W. S. CLARK. "The Dangers of New Methods of Regulation of Vice," to be introduced by Maurice Gregory, who will give some account of his recent visit to Gibraltar in this connection.

EVENING, 7 o'clock. Chairman, CHAS. I. EVANS, M.A., Headmaster of Leighton Park. "Sex Education through the Home, the School, and the Gymnasium," to be introduced by three ten-minute papers, by Mary Littleboy, J. H. Badley, M.A., Headmaster of Bedale, and Ethel Adair Impey, late Principal Dunfermline College of Hygiene and Physical Training, Editor of "The Journal of Scientific Physical Training."

Full opportunity will be given for discussion at each meeting.

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## EVENING CONCERT

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Artists: Miss Daisy Koettgen (piano), Miss Valérie Knoll (violin), Miss Théa Girkens (piano), Mr. Mostyn Bell (baritone). Tickets: 10s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., to be had at the Box Office, Bechstein Hall; Miss D. Koettgen, 63, Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.; Miss Leonora Tyson, "Uvedale," 37, Drewstead Road, Streatham, S.; and the W.S.P.U. Offices, 89, Heath Street, Hampstead.

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## VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1911.

## CARRY THE BILL!

The second reading of the Parliament Bill has been taken, says the *Daily News*, "in a House half empty and in an atmosphere of sleep." Other Press accounts inform us that "the House was thin and depressed," "the House is wondering how it is going to survive four days of it," "Members are asking themselves how the debate can possibly be spun out for four days." So it was for this that the Government invaded the rights of private members, and forcibly postponed the second reading of the Woman Suffrage Bill until May! If the Prime Minister should answer the demand for facilities for the Woman Suffrage Bill by saying that there is no time for its full and final consideration this year, we shall remember the waste of time indicated by the words quoted above, and by Mr. Harold Spender, who, writing in the *Morning Leader* of February 28, says:—

In the remarkable [First Reading] debate of last week practically everything that could be said on the general question of the Veto Bill was said. And yet, with grave solemnity, the House of Commons entered yesterday upon a second reading debate, which is to last four days, upon precisely the same subject matter and covering precisely the same ground.

All this means that two days at the very least have been unnecessarily spent, to the boredom and demoralisation of the House of Commons, on the earlier stages of the debate on the Parliament Bill. These two days could far more profitably have been employed in dealing with the Conciliation Bill for Woman Suffrage. Such wanton waste of public time deprives the Government of every vestige of excuse for denying facilities for the Conciliation Bill on the score of lack of time.

Two other excuses upon which they relied when last year they vetoed the Conciliation Bill have also disappeared. The first of these was the complaint that the title of the Bill was so limited as to preclude free discussion and amendment of the Bill. In this connection it is interesting to notice the exultation of their apologist, "P. W. W.," at the fact that the title of the Parliament Bill is limited, and therefore protects the Bill from enlargement by its enemies in the House of Lords. Says he: "The political prophets have often suggested that Lord Lansdowne

might allow a second reading to the Parliament Bill with a view to grafting reform upon it in Committee, but the title of the Parliament Bill mentions only (1) the powers of the House of Lords in relation to the House of Commons, and (2) the duration of Parliaments. Hence it follows that Lord Lansdowne could not put in reform without going beyond the Bill's scope." We see, therefore, that the promoters and supporters of the Bill are glad to shelter behind a limited title, although they would deny the same protection to the Bill for Woman Suffrage. However, the Conciliation Committee have now given their Bill an open title, so that this ground of objection the Government will no longer have.

The other excuse for opposing the Bill was that it was undemocratic. This objection has now been met in two ways. In the first place, the Conciliation Committee have made their Bill even more democratic than it was before by omitting the £10-occupation qualification, thus making the Bill apply simply and solely to women householders. In the second place a new and most important inquiry has been made as to the class of women to whom the Bill would apply. As the Ministers who were most emphatic in denouncing the Bill as undemocratic were Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill, the constituencies of these two gentlemen were chosen as the field of inquiry. The result disproves finally and conclusively their charge that the Bill is undemocratic in its operation. In Carnarvon (a small residential town with no industry) 73 per cent of the women householders are wage-earners or housewives who keep no servants; in Bangor 76 per cent are working women. These towns are included in Mr. Lloyd George's constituency. In Dundee 89 per cent. of the women qualified to vote under the Bill are weekly wage-earners or working-class housewives, and half of the women qualified live in one or two roomed dwellings.

If the Government should decide to veto the Bill again this year, instead of allowing it to become law, they would have to take this action purely and definitely on Anti-Suffrage grounds. It will be absolutely impossible to find any plausible or respectable reason for refusing to let the Bill go through this session. Moreover, the inconsistency of vetoing the Bill would be more flagrant than ever in the year which witnesses the Government's attack upon the Lords' veto.

What must necessarily be the policy to be adopted by self-respecting women if the Bill should again be wrecked in the present year is perfectly obvious. The Home Secretary appears to think that the methods he employed in November last were the fit and proper ones for dealing with the women's protest against the destruction of the Bill. He may find some to agree with him in this, but he and all the world must believe that the scenes which occurred at Westminster were deplorable, and that their repetition is a thing to be at all costs avoided. As every one knows, there is a way of making such occurrences impossible in the future, and that is, to carry the Suffrage Bill. Votes for women are surely better than blows for women!

If the safe passage of the Bill is to be assured, women must, between now and the 5th of May, give all manner of expression to their discontent with their present political position. Government rests upon the consent of the governed, and so long as women quietly and peaceably obey the law and fulfil all the obligations of citizenship, those who govern them will take it for granted that they are substantially content to be voiceless.

Most fortunately a unique opportunity of refusing consent to a system of government which gives no power to women is at hand. The Census is about to be taken, and Suffragists in great numbers are resolving not to be included in this numbering of the people. Since women do not count, neither will they be counted! The logic of this protest is so irresistible that the voice of criticism is almost stilled. No one can deny that in a democratically governed State rights and duties go hand in hand. For many years women have consented to perform citizen duties, notwithstanding the fact that they were deprived of the correlative rights, but it is only as a matter of courtesy that they have done this. They have been under no moral obligation to do it. On the contrary, they have laid themselves open to the charge of ignoble subservience and acquiescence in wrong. There is no possible ground of complaint against them now that they have decided that conscience no longer permits them to be thus complaisant.

Christabel Pankhurst.

## WARRIOR WOMEN.

By S. D. Shallard.

### I.—FROM EARLY DAYS.

"What soldiers these Englishwomen make!" said the Sultan of Morocco's Minister of War during the troubles in Morocco. He had arrived with the Viziers to rescue members of the English Colony from an infuriated and threatening mob surrounding the Mission House. The women to whom he referred were, in one sense, all there by accident. They were not soldiers' wives; there had been no reason to expect serious trouble in Morocco, therefore they had neither selected nor risked the chance of a dangerous life; yet in face of imminent peril their calmness and self-possession were sufficient to evoke the honest admiration of a race to which calmness and self-possession are second nature.

As a matter of fact, we are all familiar with instances of the unexpected coolness and prompt courage of women in times of peril. The newspapers constantly report such cases, and many of us know of others which never appear in the Press. From this it might be expected that whenever women, through a turn in circumstances, should find themselves engaged in war their conduct would be very similar to that of the more experienced male soldiers, with the exception that some would probably display rather more coolness in council and others display rather more reckless bravery in action.

This supposition is, in fact, supported by nearly all known facts as to the conduct of women in the time of war.

I do not wish at all to commit myself to the narrow view that war consists of blows delivered and shots fired in the field. There are many absolutely essential operations of war other than those of actual fighting. To that point, however, I do not here address myself. The object of these articles will be to show how in all ages women have borne the sword and the rifle,—in modern times winning medals, orders, promotion, even pensions, often without their sex being in the least suspected. The facts to be given will further show quite clearly that the woman's temperament and capacities perfectly well fit her for active service on the field of battle. Quite erroneous is the vulgar idea that women are unsuited for military service in the field—an idea based upon an ignorance of women's capacities due to the artificial conditions under which we live.

Recently I found that in the course of my reading I had taken notes of many instances of women's courage and daring in war times, as recorded by the classic writers, by the great feminists of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and by writers such as Buckle, Motley, and Prescott. When one sets out deliberately to explore the literature of the subject one finds records of such an extent that the reproduction of them would require several good-sized volumes, and even the attempt to cover the ground in a short series of articles would produce an almost tiresome repetition.

From the legends of the Trojan war, the traditions of Egypt and Persia, the history of Cæsar's campaigns in Gaul and Britain, the Punic and other Roman wars in Europe, Asia, and Africa, the Mohammedan invasion, the Crusades, the Moorish wars in Spain, the Spanish conquests in America, the incessant strife among the European powers and principalities that ravaged the Continent through the Dark and Middle Ages, the long struggle of Hungary and Greece with the Turks, the wars of the Empire, the Peninsular and Crimean wars, the French and American revolutions, the revolutions of '48, the North American Civil war, and the revolutions and civil wars of South America—there is not one of these instances of human struggle which does not supply us with evidence of the martial deeds of women inspired by patriotism, religious conviction, hatred of tyranny, danger to the city or home, love, ambition, revenge, or other of those sentiments which stir the soul.

Of all periods may truly be said what is said of the era of the Crusades in Thomas's "Essay on Women in Different Ages":—

"The times and the manners of chivalry, by bringing great enterprises, bold adventures, and I know not what of extravagant heroism into fashion inspired the women with the same tastes. . . (They) were now seen in the middle of camps and of armies. . . Animated by the double enthusiasm of religion and valour they often performed the most romantic exploits and died with arms in their hands. . . Again in recording their remarkable deeds during the fifteenth and sixteenth century wars with the Turks he says,

"We cannot doubt that it was the double motive of religion and honour which exalted their courage to such a height."

Here we have the secret of women's relations towards war. It is true that they dislike war for its destructiveness, its clamour, its squalor, its brutality—above all for the senseless or shameless reasons which dictate most wars—but given a noble motive such as that of the defence of one's home or country—one's civil or religious liberty—and at once they are found the equal of men in discipline and endurance, and not infrequently more than their equals in skilful tactics and reckless bravery.

\* \* \* \* \*

The martial valour of women was quite well understood by the ancients and by our British and Germanic ancestors. In nearly all mythologies, Greek, Roman, Egyptian, Scandinavian, Aztec, Brahmin, the presiding divinities of war and victory have been women. The Romans and Greeks sacrificed to Pallas Athena (Minerva) before going to war, and the actual presiding divinity of battle was Bellona, who was fabled as driving her smoking steeds furiously through the ranks of the combatants. When these female divinities of war came into actual conflict with male war gods the latter were usually made to get the worst of it, as the ferocious and blundering Mars was worsted by Minerva, who combined wisdom with her courage. Pope drily commenting on this engaging fact says that it "is no more than just, since wisdom is generally averse to entering into warlike contests at all, yet when engaged is likely to triumph over brute force and to bear off the laurels of the day." Just as Minerva was the tutelary genius of all military operations, and Victoria the goddess of victory in war, so were Ne-Ith and Naphte among the Egyptians, Andraste with the British, and the Walkurie to the Germanic race.

Indeed, we know that the Celtic, British, and Germanic women were on a footing of equality with their men in war as in other things, and that they took part not only in the councils of war, but often enough in the actual fighting. All Roman writers bear witness to the fact that the women of the Celtic and Germanic tribes accompanied the men to the scenes of battle, were consulted before action, and practically acted as a reserve force, many of them rushing into battle when the main body sustained a repulse.

In the great triumphal procession of the Emperor Aurelian there were many representative groups of prisoners, each group bearing some inscription. We learn that great interest was excited by a group which bore the designation of "Gothic Amazons." We know also that during the wars with the barbarians numbers of Gothic women, dressed in male attire, many of them quite young girls, were found among the slain.

In these facts, in the traditions of Greece and Rome—indeed in universal tradition, in our knowledge of the existence in modern times of fighting regiments—even entire divisions of an army—composed of women warriors; here have we clear evidence of the martial propensities of free women in days when incessant warfare was the price to be paid for independence—for very existence.

In my next article I shall have something further to say of Amazons, from fabulous times down to our own day, some of the facts I shall be able to give being, I think, very little known.

### TREASURER'S NOTE.

There are yet eight days before Self-Denial Week begins. All the plans for organisation are complete at Headquarters, and the local Unions all over the country are concentrating their attention with right good will upon their various schemes for raising a record Self-Denial fund. We mean to complete the £100,000 Campaign Fund this month. That means that we have to raise before the last day of March a little over ten thousand pounds. We look to the organisers and local Unions now so numerous and so strong to carry out half this task. Their combined efforts during Self-Denial Week will, I hope, realise five thousand pounds. We at Headquarters will do the rest.

The following letter enclosing cheque for £10 from a man in Buenos Aires supplies one out of the many proofs of the fact that the W.S.P.U. possesses well-wishers and supporters in all parts of the world. "Dear Madam.—When I left England in April last I promised you further help for the good Cause, and I now enclose draft on the London and

River Plate Bank, Ltd., to the order of the W.S.P.U. for the sum of £10. I am sorry that it is not ten thousand, but I can assure you that in good wishes I am a heavy subscriber. I hope that all women in England will resist taxation until their just demands are listened to by men whose minds, very badly balanced on this point, seem to be incapable of meting out justice to your sex, which has always been far above ours and always will be so." I hope that our friends in many lands who take this paper will remember that a great struggle for liberty is going on in this country and will individually practise special effort and self-denial during the present month in order that our wai chest may be filled.

E. P. L.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

February 20 to February 25.

*Already acknowledged .....	£ 89,488 10 5	Miss Marion Proctor .....	0 5 0
Mrs. Louise Armstrong .....	1 0 0	Mrs. and Miss O. Proctor .....	0 5 0
A. J. Blount, Esq. ....	2 0 0	Miss Nellie .....	0 5 0
Mrs Pauline I. Clough .....	0 10 0	Per Miss Miller—	
Mr. C. Herbert .....	1 0 0	Miss Broadhurst .....	0 14 0
Capt. C. M. Gonne (approx. amount due to Inland Revenue) .....	2 0 0	Miss Benet .....	0 4 0
Mrs. Violet Jones .....	0 4 0	Miss Downing .....	0 10 0
B. D. Kirby, Esq., M.D. ....	1 13 0	Miss R. Grady .....	0 6 0
Anon., per Miss J. M. Clark .....	0 2 0	" A Civil Servant" .....	2 10 0
J. Y. Kennedy, Esq. ....	0 2 6	Mrs. Pollard .....	0 6 0
Miss Jastrow .....	0 10 0	W. Streiffeld, Esq. ....	0 7 0
G. S. Anderson, Esq. ....	10 0 0	Miss McKechnie .....	0 6 0
Anon.—Brighton .....	2 10 0	Miss Watts .....	0 6 0
Interest on Banking account—		Miss Rush .....	0 6 0
Oct.—Dec., 1909 .....	27 13 11	Miss McGrath .....	0 6 0
Jan.—Dec., 1910 .....	106 17 2	Miss Weeks .....	0 5 0
Extra on "V. F. W." —		Per Miss D. Pethick—	
Per Mrs. Friedlaender .....	0 0 4	Mrs. Barnes .....	0 0 6
Per Miss Friedlaender .....	0 0 11	Per Miss Phillips—	
Per Miss E. Stacy .....	0 0 11	A Working Woman .....	0 1 0
Mrs. Pankhurst, trav. exp., per Miss B. Downing .....	1 13 9	Mrs. Behrens .....	1 0 0
Mrs. Elmer Temple .....	1 1 0	Per Miss E. Schofield—	
A Cowardly Sympathiser .....	0 10 0	Profit on Literature Collected for Banner .....	4 13 8
Miss Kate Simmons .....	0 10 6	Per Miss Fraser Smith—	
Mrs. E. S. Hooke .....	1 0 0	Profit on Shop sales .....	3 0 0
Stuart Woodhams, Esq. ....	0 5 0	Profit on Candy .....	0 7 6
Miss H. M. Pearson .....	0 3 0	Profit on Library .....	0 1 3
Per Miss R. Barrett—		Per Miss Williams—	
Lecture Fee .....	0 10 6	A Friend .....	0 1 0
Mrs. Mackworth .....	1 0 0	Mrs. M. Taylor .....	50 0 0
Per Miss Belden—		Profit on Teas .....	0 3 0
Miss Gentle .....	1 0 0	For By-Election.	
Miss Foskitt .....	0 5 0	Miss Jessie Green .....	5 0 0
Mrs. Crumhanks .....	0 10 0	Per Miss A. Kenney—	
Barney W.S.P.U. ....	1 11 4	Miss Joachim .....	0 9 9
Miss Imray .....	0 2 0	Miss Mitchell .....	0 10 0
Mr. and Mrs. H. Silver .....	0 2 0	Mrs. C. Morris .....	0 10 0
Per Miss L. Burns—		Miss Tollemache .....	0 5 0
The Misses Hudson (What Drive) .....	1 10 0	Miss Chapman (per Miss Jessie Smith) .....	0 5 0
Miss L. Burns, B.A. ....	0 4 0	Mrs. Scott (do.) .....	0 1 6
Miss I. C. Gorrie .....	0 5 0	—, Scott, Esq. (do.) .....	0 1 6
Portobello Members .....	0 7 5		
Per Miss O. Fontaine—		For "V.I.W." to New Zealand.	
Mrs. Griffiths .....	0 2 6	Miss Alice Heale .....	1 0 0
Miss Pilliner .....	0 1 0	Miss Edith Beck .....	2 12 4
Extra on "V.I.W." .....	0 0 8	Membership Fees .....	4 19 0
Sale of Antiques .....	0 15 0	Collections, etc.—	
Profit on Teas .....	0 2 2	London .....	51 12 10
Per Miss M. Harrison—		Per Miss Barrett .....	33 5 8
Mrs. Herbert Holmes .....	1 5 0	Per Miss Burns .....	0 16 5
Miss Mabel Harrison .....	0 2 6	Per Miss Fontaine .....	10 9 5
Per Mrs. Langton—		Per Miss Gorrie .....	0 12 0
Sale of Calendars .....	0 6 0	Per Miss Harrison .....	1 4 2
Sale of Bag .....	0 7 8	Per Mrs. Mansel .....	0 5 5
Sale of Linen .....	0 11 3	Per Mrs. McKeown .....	1 2 9
Per Mrs. Mansel—		Per Miss Miller .....	0 5 7
Sale of Sweets .....	0 3 0	Per Miss Phillips .....	25 1 2
Sale of Marmalade .....	0 3 0	Per Miss Fraser .....	0 19 11
Sale of Needlework .....	0 1 11	Smith .....	1 18 11
A Member .....	0 1 0	Per Miss Williams .....	1 11 0
Miss Strangways .....	0 10 0	Total .....	£ 89,876 13 2
Per Mrs. McKeown—			
Mrs. Alfred .....	0 6 0		
For use of telephone .....	0 14 7		
Profit on literature .....	2 3 2		

\*NOTE.—The amount of £9 2s. 6d. entered as "Shop goods sold during Bazaar" in issue of January 20 was in error, and is deducted from above total.

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and crossed, "Barclay and Co."

### ALBERT HALL, MARCH 23.

In view of the fact that the Albert Hall meeting, on March 23, at 8 p.m., occurs before the second reading of the Women's Bill, it is most important that every seat in the hall should be filled, and that numbers of people, hitherto strangers to the movement, should be present. Owing to the political importance of the moment, this meeting is a fitting opportunity to introduce strangers, who will be interested to know that Miss Vida Goldstein, President of the Women's Political Association of Victoria, is coming to England to speak at it. An inspiring feature of this meeting will be the singing of the "Women's March," under the directorship of the composer, Miss Ethel Smyth, Mus. Doc. Men and women Suffragists who have strong voices and who wish to sing in the choir, should send in their names at once to Miss Kerr, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., as there are only a few places left for volunteers. They can obtain lower orchestra seats, price 1s. each. Miss Florence Cooke, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, will be glad if members will make early application for tickets. Prices: Boxes, £1 10s. (to seat 10 persons); £1 1s. (eight persons); and 12s. 6d. (five persons); stalls, 2s.; lower orchestra, 1s.; upper orchestra and balcony, 6d. All the arena seats are booked, but the back rows of the lower orchestra, which are not required for the choir, can now be applied for.

Only members of the Women's Social and Political Union can obtain tickets from Miss Cooke. It should be clearly understood, however, that strangers, both men and women, are very welcome at the meeting, and members of the W.S.P.U. can obtain tickets for them.

The only part of the hall which is not being reserved is the gallery, and that will be thrown open free to women on the night.

Mrs. Pankhurst will be in the chair, and the speakers will include

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.

Miss Hambling will be much obliged if none of the regular stewards will volunteer for the choir, as they are wanted for stewarding. They should let her know at once whether they will be able to undertake the duties of steward. Members only are eligible, and they must be at the hall by six o'clock.

## FACTS FOR LLOYD GEORGE AND WINSTON CHURCHILL.

With the view of testing the accuracy of the assertions made by Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill that the bulk of the women enfranchised by the Conciliation Bill would be "propertied women," and that therefore the Bill could not be considered "democratic," a classification according to social position has been undertaken of the women municipal voters in their constituencies. The result, attested by fully competent authorities in the respective districts, has been to show that the assertions of Messrs. Lloyd George and Churchill are entirely without foundation. The joint results for Carnarvon and Bangor show that 76 per cent. of the women who would come on to the Parliamentary register are working women, and that of the other 24 per cent., 9 per cent. are women engaged in business. In Dundee the proportion is still more remarkable, 89 per cent. being working women, and of the remaining 11 per cent. 5½ per cent. are engaged in business, leaving only 7½ per cent. who can be described as belonging to the "propertied" class.

### Carnarvon.

In Carnarvon, the tabulating was done by a small committee of women who have an extensive acquaintance with the town. Between them they carefully accounted for the largest proportion, and the remainder were disposed of by the information of these voters' personal acquaintances, who were of unimpeachable reliability. The total number of women on the Register is 345. These were divided into four classes, working out as follows:—

Class A—Business women who keep one or more servants .....	29
B—Earners, who keep no servants ...	174
C—Working-class housewives supported by relatives and often recipients of old-age pensions .....	79
D—Women of means engaged in no paying occupations and keeping one or more servants .....	63

Besides these, 11 have the £10 occupation qualification, 8 being actual workers corresponding to those in Class B.

It may be remarked that Classes A and B were tabulated in their exact occupations, and that Class D includes few really wealthy women.

It will thus be seen that Classes B and C, which represent hard-working women, form 73 per cent. of the whole.

The Report was submitted to and signed by the Mayor, the Registrar to the County Court (also Deputy Constable of Carnarvon Castle), and two prominent Liberal ministers who know the town well. They not only warranted the good faith of the recorders, but checked and guaranteed the accuracy of the figures, in their opinion so carefully elaborated.

### Bangor.

In Bangor, in order to avoid any charge of partiality, the classifying was done by an independent committee of influential citizens, the mayor and other responsible people supervising the work and afterwards signing the Report. The result showed an even more democratic state of affairs than in Carnarvon. The following is a copy of the resolution passed at this committee, held to check the statistical classification of the Women Burgesses of Bangor on Thursday, February 2, 1911, in the office of the assistant overseer:—"At a Committee held this day of persons representative of Conservative and Liberal politics, a Return of the Women Burgesses of the Borough of Bangor was submitted, giving the following particulars:—

Spinster. Widows.	
Class A—Business women...	29 ... 32
B—Earners .....	56 ... 107
C—Working-class housewives .....	19 ... 125
D—Middle-class housewives .....	12 ... 24

giving a total of 404."

Note.—The £10 occupiers, qualified in virtue of renting business premises only, are included amongst the above classes. They number seven, and all except one are workers in shops or market gardens.

Further, "The Committee were satisfied that the numbering and classifications had been done by impartial and independent persons who had most intimate knowledge of the City, and that the work had been done with the greatest care."

The signatures of the previously described citizens then follow.

The Bangor percentages work out as follows—Classes A, B and C together form 91 per cent. of the whole, B and C together 76 per cent., and Class D 9 per cent.

### Dundee.

In Dundee the work was also carried out by an independent committee, with the following results:—

Parliamentary Voters—Householders, who, under the Conciliation Bill, would be Parliamentary voters .....	3,866
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Non-occupant owners, who, under

the Conciliation Bill, would not be Parliamentary voters .....	628
£10 occupants, who, under the Conciliation Bill, would not be Parliamentary voters .....	389
Wives whose husbands already vote in the constituency, who, under the Conciliation Bill, would not be Parliamentary voters .....	279
Landlords, who, under the Conciliation Bill, would not be Parliamentary voters .....	202
Servicemen, who, under the Conciliation Bill, would not be Parliamentary voters .....	22
	1,520

### No Returns—

Refused information .....	514
Removed, or not found in .....	290
Dead .....	69
	873

### Total on roll .....

It will be seen that the £10 occupiers would, in Dundee, represent a rather larger proportion (not quite one-eighth) of the total women voters and these would be out of the present Bill.	6,259
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An analysis of the status of the householders gives the following figures:—

Class A—Professional workers .....	129 (3·4 per cent.)
B—Weekly wage-earners .....	1,690 (43·8 per cent.)
C—Working-class housewives .....	1,759 (45·3 per cent.)
D—Women of independent means .....	228 (7·6 per cent.)
	5,356

This gives us 3,576 women working for their livelihood as against 228 propertied women; 92·5 of the women householders of Dundee are therefore women who work for their livelihood and 8·1 are what are commonly called "working women."

Analysis of their housing gave the following:—

Occupying 1 or 2 rooms .....	2,177
3 or 4 .....	1,178
5 .....	183
6 or more .....	328
	5,356

### "UP AND DOING!"

The word has gone out, and the Press—with a few honourable exceptions—preserves silence on the terrible disclosures contained in Mr. Brailsford's leaflet about the treatment of the last deputation. That, however, makes little difference to the Suffragettes. They are used to the Press boycott, and they know how to overcome it. By the thousand the leaflet will be distributed among responsible people, members of Parliament, clergymen, doctors, officials, magistrates, lawyers—and, as Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said on Monday at the Queen's Hall, it will create a revolution of feeling, and make it impossible for another deputation to be treated in the same shameful manner. Miss Pankhurst, too, spoke most gravely on the subject as reported on p. 252.

So now to work with the distribution of the leaflets, so that all the world will hear the black story!

And at the moment there is another form of protest to hand—the resistance of the Census. Judging from the sheaf of promises handed up at the Hall, this will be a splendid effort, and women will do nothing to help a Government which, as likely as not, would use the statistics as an argument for fresh one-sided legislation.

These devices are to harass the Government—"the more they are annoyed, the better pleased we shall be," said Miss Pankhurst—but their meaning is really far deeper; they may be small in themselves, but they represent woman's revolt against her condition as outcast, so well described by Mrs. Lawrence in her eloquent speech at the Queen's Hall last Monday. "It will not be for long. We are justified in forcible measures to protect helpless women and children. It seems almost as if women alone were now the defenders of the liberties of the people."

Yes, when women work together and spread in ever wider and wider circles, it forms a great web, as Miss Brackenbury said in a happy little speech, "into which we all tumble and get saved, so let us be up and doing."

### NO SLACKNESS!

It was interesting to watch the varying expressions on the faces of the strangers at last Thursday evening's meeting at the Steinway Hall. Some of them, apparently came in from curiosity—they had never thought about this matter; others probably wondered why there was all this fuss about a vote. To be told in Mrs. Tuke's opening remarks that people who said they could not see or feel the need for the vote went through the world with deaf ears, blind eyes, empty hearts, and no imagination, was well calculated to wake them up. Before the meeting concluded they got many things to think about in the interesting address given by Mrs. Pertwee, who said when women got the vote they meant to concentrate on the home and in serving the interests of the home dwellers. It was not true that women, because

they were not personally domestically employed, did not care about the home. In reply to those people who said that Suffragists put the cause first and home anywhere, she would like to point out that the cause was the home and the home was the cause. Who would not say that the courage with which women came out into the labour market and fought their way was not more essentially womanly than the idea of treating marriage as a trade? The dignity of wifehood and the sacredness of motherhood must be recognised, but this was impossible until woman's economic status was raised. At the conclusion of her address, Mrs. Pertwee spoke of the work the Actresses' Franchise League are doing, and announced that they had made arrangements for holding a campaign in the East-End. Her message to the audience was, "All hands to the pump and no slackness."

After the singing of "The March of the Women," Miss Pankhurst roused a high pitch of enthusiasm by announcing, with regard to Mr. Brailsford's leaflet, that the information he had given in the name of the Conciliation Committee must be known all over the world, Press boycott or no Press boycott. There were women in the audience who felt glad that there are women to-day whose eyes are open to see that the law, when it is supposed to protect women, is only a sham. They are not afraid to say it, and they are out to make every protest they can until they have got that which is the lever to change a condition of things which is infamous—namely, the vote. Women have been willing to give up home, friends, position, yes, and even life itself, for this, and they look to the British House of Commons to see that justice is done this Session.

### THE COLOURS IN AMERICA.

Columns in the American newspapers, with large headlines, indicate the progress of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst in her tour through the States. On February 13 she addressed a large audience in the Second Baptist Church at Rochester, and explained the English movement. The *Herald* concludes its report:—

"Miss Pankhurst's recital of her prison experience was both pathetic and humorous, and incidentally revealed the fact that English jails are anything but clean. The severity of treatment meted out to the Suffragettes and the results of forcible feeding were described, as well as other conditions that have no parallel in this country."

The cards for her lecture at the Columbia Theatre are headed:—"The New Struggle for Liberty. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, English Suffragette, lectures at the Columbia Theatre on Washington's Birthday."

Mrs. Page, of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association, writes: "Miss Pankhurst made a great impression on Boston." Referring to her speech before the Iowa Legislature, the *Des Moines Register* says:—"As she entered upon her story of the English Suffrage movement, she forgot herself. Her words came out of the fulness of her heart and they were strongly appealing and often filled with eloquence. She spoke nearly forty minutes. When she told simply the stand of herself and her sister Englishwomen for plain human rights, there was very evident sympathy for her everywhere."

### MEN'S POLITICAL UNION FOR WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT.

Offices : 11, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone : City 8972.

Founder and Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Duval. Hon. Treasurer—Frank Butler, B.A.

Hon. Parliamentary Sec.—D. Cameron-Swan.

The members of this union are co-operating with the women's societies in declining to furnish information required by the Census Authorities. Householders desiring particulars of this protest should communicate with Miss Olive Smith, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C. Particulars of protests made by our members at Cabinet Ministers' meetings during last week will be found elsewhere. A demonstration in North London is being organised by this union to be held at the Avondale Hall, Palmer's Green, N., on Thursday, March 30. Tickets and full particulars can be obtained from Bernard V. Clarke, Esq., 3, Meadowcroft Villas, Green Lanes, Palmers Green, N.

Treasurer's Note.—To meet the growing legal expenses of this Union, the Hon. Treasurer earnestly appeals for further financial support. Three more promises of £5 each are urgently needed to fulfil the conditions already mentioned in this column. The following amounts received are gratefully acknowledged:

Amount already acknowledged .....	£756 12 3
Mr. Maitland .....	0 3 0
Mr. E. Bowden Smith's travelling expenses, per Ilford W.S.P.U. ....	0 1 4
H. Burrell, Esq. ....	0 2 6
Mrs. Brewster ....	6 0 0
Mrs. Gertrude Eaton ....	1 1 0
Entrance fees ....	0 7 0

£754 7 1

Leicester.—A local M.P.U. has been formed, and friends in this district are requested to communicate with the local hon. secretary, Mr. Alfred Hawkins, 2, Gavel Street, Narborough Road, Leicester.

### A CATHOLIC SOCIETY FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

A well-attended drawing-room meeting of Catholic women was recently held at 8, George Street, Manchester Square (by kind permission of Miss Smyth-Pigott), to discuss the advisability of forming a society among Catholics for promoting Woman Suffrage, when it was unanimously agreed to do so. This society is to be formed on Constitutional and non-party lines, and is intended primarily to appeal to those Catholic men and women who have not hitherto taken any part in the Woman Suffrage Movement. An hon. treasurer has been appointed *pro tem.*, and a small sum raised to defray expenses of the formation of the society. If sufficient support is forthcoming it is hoped to hold an inaugural meeting shortly. In the meantime, the promoters will be glad to hear from all Catholics interested in the movement. Letters should be addressed to Miss Kendall, 22, Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park, N., or to Miss Jeffery, I.W.F. Club, 9, Grafton Street, W. The latter will arrange interviews if desired.

### THE NEW PLAYERS.

This energetic new society, which has for its well-known secretary Miss Adeline Bourne, the well-known Suffragist, gave its members two performances of Oscar Wilde's "Salomé" at the Court Theatre, on Monday and Tuesday. The tremendous energy which had been put into the preparations for these performances resulted in a full house, and judging by the applause and by the bouquets which were showered upon Miss Bourne (who filled the title-role), the audience thoroughly appreciated the performance. Miss Bourne, who looked very charming in her Eastern dress, was "terrible as an army with

## OUR POST BOX.

## POLICE TREATMENT OF THE DEPUTATION.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—I have just read in to-day's paper of the horrible indignities inflicted upon those ladies who undertook the deputation to Parliament last November. A sense of shame completely filled me when I had finished. It makes one hold one's manhood cheap to read such evidence. I hasten to send a modest donation to your funds.—Yours, etc.,

A READER.

## THE CENSUS BOYCOTT.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—I have not followed the literature of the census boycott, but it ought to be noted that to comply with the Act people who pass the night of Sunday out and come back "in the morning" of Monday must be entered in the census paper. So those who want to be safe must stay out until the evening (or perhaps afternoon).

It should be remembered that no one is bound to answer the occupier's questions, and the occupier is not bound to make any inquiries. Only the occupier is bound to answer the enumerators.

It is a puzzle why the Irish Act should be different. It apparently imposes a penalty on anyone who refuses to answer.—Yours, etc.,

TH. BATY.

Temple, E.C.

## DISCONTENTED TEACHERS.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—I have been told that a post of Parliamentary Secretary has been created within the last few years by the N.U.T. Executive, and that the salary attached is secured from the 2s. which the officials of the Union set aside for Parliamentary representation. Can any teacher inform me if this is correct? If so, who is the lady or gentleman now filling the post?—Yours, etc.,

A SUFFRAGIST TEACHER.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—Mr. G. A. Touche, M.P., in his address at Queen's Hall on the 20th ult., counselled us to be "resolute and vigilant, to keep the country ringing with our demand, and to put every form of pressure on the Government and individual members of the House." Much dissatisfaction is felt amongst teachers at the treatment accorded the Conciliation Bill introduced in the late Parliament by Dr. Macnamara. This gentleman is one of those who has on occasion treated our demand with indifference, and even hostility. Teachers recent this, and consider that as our money has been largely used to place this gentleman in the eminent position he occupies, he should have shown more loyalty to those who provided the ladder for his climb. It is useless to waste energy in regret only. We must be up and doing, and endeavour to convince Dr. Macnamara of the justice of our cause, so that he will use his vote and influence to ensure the passage of the Bill, which will be introduced on May 5. I trust that every teacher will write to Dr. Macnamara, urging him to give his wholehearted support to this Bill and the recommendations of the Conciliation Committee.—Yours, etc.,

A DISSATISFIED LONDON MEMBER.

[We would remind women teachers who wish to protest against the levy of 2s. to the N.U.T. for Parliamentary representatives that Miss Townsend, 27, Murillo Road, Lee, S.E., will be glad to have their names and addresses as soon as possible.—Ed. VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

## SELF-DENIAL WEEK.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—May I be allowed to make a suggestion for "Self-Denial" Week to those of our members who take the VOTES FOR WOMEN paper regularly every week to the same people, namely, that they should take their "Self-Denial" card with them, and ask for a small donation, and also get their customers to take an extra copy for that week. I tried it last year, and found everyone most responsive. I don't think I had any refusals. I collected nearly 10s. in that way.—Yours, etc.,

E. MAUDE STANILAND,  
Bristol member.

## WOMEN WARRIORs.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—I see in yesterday's VOTES FOR WOMEN that you are about to publish certain articles on "Women in War." I should like to refer you to a favourite author of mine for a passage which deserves quoting in this connection. There is a lively account of the bravery and public spirit of the women of Sienna, in the siege that took place in 1555, to be found in the *Commentaries of Measure Blaize de Monthur, Marshal of France*, translated by Ch. Cotton, Book III., pp. 141, 142. I command it to your notice.—Yours, etc.,

E. D. KIRBY.  
Edgbaston.

## WHAT WOMEN CAN DO.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—On the morning of polling day here last election I went out, before anyone was about, with a little pot of good white oil paint and a small brush, and painted on the inner edge of the pavement, where all the

voters would pass to and from the polling place, "Taxation without representation is slavery, and Britons never, never shall be slaves." I also printed it along the brick wall of my field, which they had to pass coming and going to and from the train. On this place when the daylight goes the station lights shine right upon the letters, so that night or day he who runs may read, till time and weather wear out the paint. On the large doors of the field, near the same spot, I printed "No vote, no taxes." I find my field gate a useful place to stick cartoons and cuttings from VOTES FOR WOMEN, as everyone has to pass it going to and coming from the train.—Yours, etc.,

M. C. L. FROOD.

Topsham.

## A WIFE'S INCOME.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

DEAR SIR.—A case has just been reported to me in which a provincial tax surveyor has broken the solemn oath of secrecy (which all tax officials must take on their appointment) by disclosing a woman's income to her husband, the particulars having been given, under the seal of confidence, by the woman's employers. The Board of Inland Revenue has been requested to give its immediate attention to this grave breach of law. May I ask your readers to report any similar case that may come under their notice?—Yours, etc.,

E. ATYES PURDIE.

Craven House, Kingsway, W.C.,  
February 27, 1911.

## NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA.

Dear VOTES FOR WOMEN.—California to-day took a long step on the way to Votes for Women. The vote in the Legislature was on submitting amendment to vote at next election, and was—

Senate, 33 to 5.

Assembly, 65 to 12.

The insurgent movement in politics is on the "boom," as we say in California, and Woman Suffrage has the advantage of the general progressive uprising. We count on California as the sixth free State, and while we give due credit to the pioneer protests, the educational work, the increasing number of wage-earning women, the union labour and Socialist movement—all these necessary and helpful parts of the woman movement—some of us know that we owe most of all to the English women who have made Votes for Women the talk of the newspapers, the Press despatches, and the common people.—Yours gratefully,

ALICE L. PARK

(Chairman, Literature and Printing Committee of California Equal Suffrage Association).

611, Gilman Street, Palo Alto, California,  
February 2, 1911.

## THE "ANTIS" QUESTIONS TO WOMEN MUNICIPAL VOTERS.

*To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.*

Dear Sir,—Being a woman who possesses a municipal vote, I have received a circular from the Anti-Woman Suffrage League enclosing a stamped postcard for my reply to the following questions:

"(1) Do you prefer that the Parliamentary vote should remain, as at present, in the hands of men?

"(2) Do you wish to give women the Parliamentary vote?"

May I point out that both these questions, whether purposely so or not, are worded in a most misleading way. The first question may mean: "Do you want to take away the vote from men?" or, on the other hand, it may mean, "Do you wish to extend the Parliamentary vote to all men or leave it as it is at present?" The second question would certainly be taken by most people to mean, "Do you wish to give the Parliamentary vote to all women?" As a woman Suffragist how am I to answer those two questions? I prefer that the Parliamentary vote should remain as it is at present, *so far as men are concerned*, but should I answer "Yes" to that question I should no doubt be counted as an Anti-Suffragist. In regard to the second question, though I am strongly desirous of the Parliamentary vote being given to duly qualified women, I do not desire that it should be given to all women, but many women who think as I do on this point might very naturally make the mistake of writing "No" in answer to this question, and so get wrongly counted as among the "Antis"—Yours, etc.

E. MACKENZIE.

16, Palace Gardens Terrace, W.,  
February 21, 1911.

A correspondent writes:—"Every member of the W.S.P.U. cannot for various reasons go on deputations or take an active public part in the work, but I think that every individual member could help if even only by wearing her badge. It is much more convincing for the public to be constantly meeting members in every-day life than petitions. Also members can tell their friends, and people whom they meet, that they are Suffragettes. Owing to the way the matter is treated in the Press, some people have such funny ideas about the Suffragettes that it would come quite as a revelation to many. I think that if every member when she wears her badge felt that she was an advertisement for her cause (and many would judge the cause by her conduct in private life) a great amount of good could be done both to the cause and to the individual member."

## W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

During the past few weeks several new centres have been opened, and the local unions all over the country are engaged in a great Constitutional campaign. The amount of work that has to be got through is stupendous, and the organisers look to members and sympathisers to come forward and take their share. While arrangements for militancy (should this be necessary) are being made, it is important that the constitutional propaganda work should not be neglected.

work is being now thoroughly reorganised under the leadership of Miss Hilda Gargett. The following officers were also elected—Miss Gibson, speakers' secretary Mrs. Neal, treasurer; Miss L. Gargett, VOTES FOR WOMEN secretary, and Miss E. Annenberg, literature secretary. As soon as arrangements can be made the Union will launch into work, with, it is hoped, splendid results for the Cause.

## CHELSEA, BATTERSEA, KENSAL TOWN.

Shop and Office—306, King's Road.  
Hon. Secretaries—Miss Haig and Miss Blacklock.

The Canvassing Committee have secured five new subscribers for the paper. Thanks to Miss White, Miss Tew and Miss Lloyd for the energetic way in which they are carrying on the work. Mrs. Cox, who is unable to canvass, has paid a six months' subscription for the paper to be sent to a friend in the country, and Miss Blacklock has arranged for a copy to be placed for the next six months in a Chelsea restaurant. A list has been started of those willing to resist the Census. Will members please call, and put down their names? The list will only be open for the next ten days. A promise of some woolen goods for the shop has been received this week. More home-made marmalade, which always finds a ready sale, will be welcomed.

## CHISWICK.

Office—306, High Rd. Hon. Sec.—Miss Coombes.

Thanks are due to Miss Cather for coming to speak at the meeting on Friday evening. It is hoped Chiswick will be well represented in the avoiding of the Census.

## CROYDON.

Office—2, Station Buildings, West Croydon.  
Tel. 908 Croydon (Nat.). Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan and Miss Leslie Hall.

Will members please note a slight change that is being made in the Monday evening meetings? Instead of a speech, there will merely be a report of the Queen's Hall speeches of the afternoon, and the meeting will then be turned into a working party, to make things for the coming sale of work. On Monday, March 13, members are asked to attend a debate on Woman Suffrage at St. Andrew's Hall, Coulsdon, 8 p.m., as there will be no working-party on that date. A successful Drawing-room meeting was held on Thursday, February 23, at Mrs. Denham's house in South Norwood, when Mrs. Cameron-Swan dealt with militant methods, and interested many of her hearers in the question of Woman Suffrage for the first time. These Drawing-room meetings are an excellent form of propaganda. Thanks to Mrs. Foster for £2 5s., the amount handed over from Progressive Whist evening. Will members willing to act as stewards at next Tuesday's meeting please send in their names to the Shop Secretary? They should wear white if possible, and be at the Hall at 7.15 p.m. One member has already promised to buy 100 of Mr. Brailsford's pamphlets (they are 2s. 6d. per 100), and send them out to prominent local persons in Croydon. Who will offer to do the same in Norwood, Purley, Sanderstead, Coulsdon, Wallington, Carshalton and Sutton? Mrs. Morris is warmly thanked for her promise to have the weekly VOTES FOR WOMEN poster shown at her expense at South Croydon Station. This promise will come into effect at the end of March. It is hoped members and friends are collecting for the

## BARNES.

Office—9a, High Street. Organiser—Miss Beldon.

Tickets (2s., 1s., 6d.) for the public meeting to be held on March 29 are now on sale at the office. It is hoped that all members and sympathisers will help in the sale of the tickets. On March 18 Mrs. Hills has very kindly offered to hold a drawing-room meeting. The organiser would be very pleased to have offers to canvass the district and to sell papers. Next week open-air meetings will be started and held every week on the Green. Subscriptions towards the campaign funds will be gratefully accepted.

## BOWES PARK AND DISTRICT.

Hon. Organiser—Miss Hilda Gargett, 4, Stonard Rd., Palmers Green.

An enthusiastic meeting was addressed by Mrs. Drummond on Tuesday last, with the result that local

## LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

March.				
Friday, 3	... Chelsea, 308, King's Road	Members' Meeting	5 p.m.	
" "	... Chiswick, 496, High Road	Speakers' Class. Miss Rosa Leo	8 p.m.	
" "	... 4, Clements Inn, W.C.	Mr. Pathick Lawrence, the Right Rev. Bishop Arnold Harris Mathew, Lord Robert Cecil. Chair: Mrs. Sabine Raleigh. Hostess: Miss Christine Silver.	7.45 p.m.	
" "	... Criterion Restaurant, Grand Hall, Actresses Franchise League	Member's Rally	3 p.m.	
" "	... 205, Fulham Road, S.W.	Miss Bonwick	7 p.m.	
" "	... Kensal Rise, Chevening Road	Miss L. Smith	8 p.m.	
" "	... Muswell Hill, Athenaeum	Miss Hicks, M.A.	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Sydenham, Wythorpe, Longton Avenue	Drawing-room Meeting. Hostess: Mrs. Streiffeld	8 p.m.	
" "	... Wandsworth, near Council House	Miss Nayler	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Wimbledon, Compton Hall	Miss Lazarine Yates. Chair: Rev. G. T. Sadler, B.A., LL.B.	3.30 p.m.	
Saturday, 4	... Balham, corner Caistor Road	Open-air Meeting	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Barnes. The Terrace. Drawing-room Meeting	Miss M. Cameron. Chair: Dr. Cruikshanks. Mrs. Crulakehns.	3 p.m.	
" "	... Cricklewood, Yew Grove	Miss Kelly, Miss R. Hyams	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Harlesden, Manor Park Road	Miss E. Myers.	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Ilford, 68, Cranbrook Road	Miss Bonwick	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Balfour Road	At Home	8 p.m.	
" "	... Islington, Jones Bros., Holloway Rd.	Miss Nayler	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Kilburn, Birchington Road	Miss C. Hopkins. Chair: Miss Billing	8 p.m.	
" "	... Lewisham, Shop	Committee Meeting	3.30 p.m.	
" "	... Leyton, Rally	Members and Friends	5.30 to 7 p.m.	
" "	... Uxbridge, "Old Rump"	Miss Vera Wentworth	8 p.m.	
" "	... Wandsworth, near Council House	Miss Wright	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Spread Eagle	Miss Richard	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Willesden Green Library	Miss Burton, Miss Rickards	7.30 p.m.	
Sunday, 5	... Hampstead Heath, Jack Straw's Castle	Miss Ade Wright	11.30 a.m.	
" "	... Wandsworth Common	Miss Richard	2.30 p.m.	
Monday 6	... Kensal Rise, Mortimer Road	Miss Feek, Miss L. Smith	3 to 5 p.m.	
" "	... Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W.	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Rev. Percy Dearmer, M.A., Miss Auriel Lee	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Wandsworth, near Council House	Miss Lennox	8 p.m.	
" "	... West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings	Miss Margaret Cameron	7.30 p.m.	
Tuesday, 7	... Balham, Lecture Hall, Assembly Room	Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Miss I. Green	7.30 p.m.	
" "	... Croydon, Small Public Hall	Members' Meeting	7 p.m.	
" "	... Streatham, Wm. Morris Institute, 13, The Broadway, Glencagie Road.	Lecture. Mrs. Bates	8 p.m.	
" "	... Streatham, Wm. Morris Institute, 13, The Broadway, Glencagie Road.	Mrs. Pathick Lawrence, Miss Decima Moore. Chair: Dr. F. A. Bather, F.R.S.	8 p.m.	
" "	... Sydenham, 26, Kirkdale	Miss Hopkins, Mrs. Fahey	7.45 p.m	

coming Jumble Sale in April. Gratefully acknowledged: Anon., £1; Mrs. Ireland, £1.

#### EALING.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Finlay, 28, Warwick Road.  
Mrs. Fraser Forbes, 78, Argyle Road.

Thanks to Mrs. Drummond for her visit on Feb. 22. There was a fair gathering of members at Mrs. Finlay's house to meet her, and a local branch was started. A committee of five was formed—two hon. secs., speakers, sec., literature sec., and treasurer. The aim of the Union will be to arrange Drawing-room meetings, outdoor meetings, and a public meeting as soon as possible. Means of raising funds for renting an office will also be thought out. Miss Spark has promised a donation of £10. Will sympathisers in Ealing communicate with one of the secretaries?

#### FULHAM AND PUTNEY.

Shop—262, Fulham Road.

Hon. Secs.—Miss L. Cuttan and Mrs. Roberts.

Mrs. Massy was unfortunately prevented, at the last moment, from speaking last Friday, but Miss Sheppard most kindly took her place, giving a very impressive address on "The White Slave Traffic." The chair was taken by Miss C. Sidney-Woolf. Already a number of members have declared their intention of boycotting the Census in one way or another. A few Albert Hall tickets (£1. 6d.) are still to be had. Please order at once. The Votes captain, Miss Bellis, wishes to thank Mrs. Barnes, Miss Cameron and another, who made a record sale in Putney High Street last Saturday night. Will other members please volunteer?

#### GREENWICH AND DEPTFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss R. M. Billinghurst.

7, Oakcroft Road, Blackheath, S.E.

Members and friends are reminded of the Public At Home which is being held at the Ethical Hall, Greenwich Road, on March 2. Plans for Self-Denial Week will be discussed. The help of every member and friend will be needed.

#### HACKNEY.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. F. W. Jones, 39, Fembury Road.

A meeting took place on Friday last at the above address. Four new members joined, and plans for evading the Census were discussed. All sympathisers in the neighbourhood are invited to the meetings.

#### HAMMERSMITH.

Shop and Office—166, Hammersmith Road.

Organising Sec.—Mrs. E. L. Butler.

On Tuesday evening the At Home was held at 40, Talgarth Mansions, by kind permission of Mrs. Armstrong. Canvassing is being continued in the district, and the results will be made public at the Annual General Meeting, to be held shortly. It is hoped that all members will do their utmost to attend that meeting—as the Yearly Report will be read, and the progress of work in the district shown.

#### HAMPSTEAD.

Shop and Office—39, Heath Street.

Organising Sec.—Miss M. Rowntree.

Will every member give some time to local work these next few weeks? Miss Florence Speng has promised to devote a day or day and a half each week to canvassing, etc. Will others do the same? A Census meeting is being arranged with the Women's Freedom League, for Tuesday, March 21, at 3 o'clock in the Small Hall at Haversstock Hill. Admission will be free. The time for working this up is short, and many workers will be necessary.

#### HIGHGATE.

Office—44, High Street. Organiser—Miss Billing.

The canvassing continues to show good results. A series of open-air meetings has been started (see programme). The first was held on Wednesday, Feb. 22, near Muswell Hill Atheneum, when Miss Billing and Miss Gargrett were the speakers. Another large meeting was held near the Archway Tavern on Saturday last, at which Mrs. Keeling and Miss Meacock spoke. Thanks to Mrs. Mansell-Moulin and to Miss Mitchell for help given. Gratefully acknowledged—Mrs. Barfield, 2s. 6d. Every member must bring friends to the big meeting at the Atheneum, Muswell Hill, on March 15, at which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Massy will speak. Chair, Mrs. Mansell-Moulin. Tickets now on sale, 2s., 1s., 6d.

#### ILFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 68, Cranbrook Road.

A large crowd gathered to hear Miss Gilliat at Barking on Wednesday, and on Saturday Miss Maud Harvey made a splendid speech outside the Town Hall. The sale of papers increases at each meeting. Members are asked to note that the sale at meetings depends largely on the number of sellers. Sellers are wanted for the pitch at Ilford Station, 8 to 8, Wednesday and Friday, and especially for canvassing. The secretary will be glad to hear from members and sympathisers with regard to the Census. Albert Hall tickets: arena, 1s. Apply early.

#### ISLINGTON.

Office—247, Goswell Road, E.C.

Organiser—Miss E. M. Gasterley.

Will members and friends please note that the secretary will be at the office every Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m.? Five new members have come forward to help with the paper-selling, which will enable the Committee to start another pitch in Holloway Road. Miss Bain is ready with plans for canvassing. Helpers are greatly needed for this branch of the work.

#### KENSINGTON.

Shop and Office—153, Church Street, Kensington, W. Tel., 3116. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bates, and Miss Evelyn Sharp.

Thanks to the devoted canvassing of the Misses Wyke, the Horbury Rooms meeting was most successful. New members were made, and a substantial sum was handed to the Treasurer. Thanks to the Rev. S. Dallas for speaking, and to Lady Stout for attending the meeting in spite of her recent illness. Mrs. Reginald Pott had a well-attended Drawing-room meeting on Friday, in connection with the South Kensington campaign, at which Miss Marie Brackenbury and Mr. Reginald Pott spoke. 50 papers were sent to prominent Kensington residents this week, and an increase of the special fund to enable the same number to be sent out each week is hoped for. The co-operation of all members to raise a record amount in Kensington for the Self-Denial Week fund is needed. Will each member let the secretaries know as soon as possible what time she can give from March 11 to 12 for this work, and in what way she can help?

#### LEWISHAM.

Shop and Offices—107, High Street, Lewisham. Shop hours, 2 to 5 p.m. Thurs., 10.30—12.30 p.m. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bouvier, 22, Mount Pleasant Road.

Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett's witty address, Miss Purvis's piano solo, and Miss Klimondoff's recitation were greatly appreciated by the audience at Avenue House on Feb. 21. The Self-Denial Week sale of home-made produce—groceries, shop confectionery, and also of fancy goods—at greatly reduced prices, will be held at the shop on Wednesday, March 15, 2 to 9 p.m., and on the following three days at the usual shop hours (see above). Will every member and friend kindly contribute something to the confectionery and grocery stall, and also help to make the sale a success? Several promises of help have already been received. Another whist drive (tickets 1s. 6d., including refreshments) will be held at Avenue House on Saturday, March 18, at 7.30 p.m. Thanks to Miss Grievor for the beautiful contributions already sent in. Tickets for Town Hall meeting can be obtained at 47, High Street, and will be on sale at the box-office on the night of the meeting.

the shop, on sale or return. Will members and friends of the local union, as well as of the neighbouring unions, help with the sale of tickets? Thanks to Miss Bone for 2s. 6d. towards shop rent.

#### NORTH ISLINGTON.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Constance Bryer, 99, Tufnell Park, N. The concert, whist drive and dance, held last Thursday, was in every way a success, and already people are asking for another on the same lines. Over £24 was taken in tickets. Warm thanks to those who gave refreshments, and to the following artists: Miss Newstead and Mr. Hawkins, Miss Bayman, Miss Nancy Gillman, Miss Low, Miss Grace Darling and Miss Bonwick; and to Mr. Frank Witty, whose "Suffrage song" and others met with great approval. Many said that the fencing and ju-jitsu by the young pupils of Miss Garrud from Crouch End High School were alone worth going to see. Suggestions for Self-Denial Week should be sent to the secretary or to Miss Huie, 22, Weston Park, Crouch End. Miss Henly is reconstructing the pitch-selling and urgently desires every member to do her duty.

#### N.W. LONDON.

Shop and Office—218, High Road, Kilburn, Tel. 1123, Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell.

The Social at Plympton House (kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Jones) was a great success, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by members and friends. Many new members were made. Heartfelt thanks to the Misses Wyatt, who kindly consented to sing at the last moment, and to the following artists: Miss Burton, Mrs. Hale, Miss Ross Lee, the Misses Slade, and Mr. Frank Witty; also to Nurse Pitfield for her most delightful speech, to Mrs. Shewell Cooper for acting as chairman in the absence of Mrs. Penn Gaskell through illness, and to Mrs. Morris for such generous help with the refreshments. An afternoon meeting for working women will be held in Doyle Hall, Kentish Town, on March 15. Paper-sellers and speakers are needed.

#### PADDINGTON AND MARYLEBONE.

Shop and Office—50, Praed Street, W.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Hayfield.

The next item of work in this district is a canvas of municipal voters. Anyone who will give any help with this laborious undertaking will be gratefully welcomed. Open-air meetings are being arranged at Nutfield Place, Edgware Road, and "Prince of Wales," Harrow Road, every Tuesday and Friday at 8 p.m. The total profit from the recent entertainment amounted to £20 after payment of all expenses.

#### PINNER.

Hon. Sec., Mrs. Terrero, Rockstone House.

On February 24, as a result of a meeting at Rockstone House (Mrs. Drummond being present), a local branch was formed. The following were appointed—Hon. secretary, Mrs. Terrero; hon. treasurer, Mrs. Verden; speakers' secretary, Miss McLellan; literature secretary, Miss E. Verden; Votes secretary, Miss Jessie Barrett. Mr. Terrero offered the branch a banner, so that Pinner might be represented at the Queen's Hall meetings.

#### RICHMOND AND KEW.

Hon. Secs.—Miss Eileen Casey, 28, West Park Road, Kew; Miss Vera Slade, 4, Pagoda Avenue, Richmond.

Members are asked to attend the Members' Meeting arranged for March 8. Plans are to be made for canvassing the district during Self-Denial Week; and other suggestions are invited.

#### STREATHAM.

Temp. Office: 197, High Road, Streatham.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson.

It has been decided to stay on at the above address until the shop in Shrubbery Road can be opened. It is hoped this will be on March 24, when Miss Evelyn Sharp has kindly consented to perform the opening ceremony. Meanwhile members must concentrate on making the first lecture in the William Morris Institute a great success. Admission to the lecture is 1s.; tickets for the entire series of five lectures (transferable and undated) are 4s. The proceeds of these lectures are intended for the shop fund. A Members' Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. each Tuesday before the commencement of the lectures. Important details in connection with the opening of the shop are likely to come up for discussion next Tuesday; will members please make a point of attending? Last week's issue of *Votes for Women* has been posted, with a personal letter, to all the doctors in the district, and this week clergymen and others will be circularised. All who recognise the importance of this undertaking are asked to support it financially. Gratefully acknowledged to—

Temp. Office: 197, High Road, Streatham.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson.

Friends are reminded of Mrs. Streatfield's drawing-room meeting to-day (Friday—see programme). A meeting will take place at the Forest Hill Baths, on the evening of March 30, when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak. Lady Stour will take the chair, and Miss Decimus Moore will recite (engagements permitting). Tickets—2s., 1s., 6d.—may now be obtained at the office. Tea parties are held every afternoon in the office at a charge of 3d. All members are welcome. Contributions to rent fund:—Miss Broadhurst, 3s.; Mr. Streatfield, 1s.; Mrs. Massy spoke at the weekly meeting at the shop on Tuesday evening. There was a very good attendance and Mrs. Massy's speech was much appreciated. Will all interested please note that these meetings are held every Tuesday at 8, and are free to everyone.

#### SYDENHAM.

Shop and Office—36, Kirkdale.

Organiser—Miss Miller.

Friends are reminded of Mrs. Streatfield's drawing-room meeting to-day (Friday—see programme). A meeting will take place at the Forest Hill Baths, on the evening of March 30, when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak. Lady Stour will take the chair, and Miss Decimus Moore will recite (engagements permitting). Tickets—2s., 1s., 6d.—may now be obtained at the office. Tea parties are held every afternoon in the office at a charge of 3d. All members are welcome. Contributions to rent fund:—Miss Broadhurst, 3s.; Mr. Streatfield, 1s.; Mrs. Massy spoke at the weekly meeting at the shop on Tuesday evening. There was a very good attendance and Mrs. Massy's speech was much appreciated. Will all interested please note that these meetings are held every Tuesday at 8, and are free to everyone.

#### WALLINGTON.

A most successful drawing-room meeting was held at Dinhams, Hillsides Gardens, on February 23, when Mrs. Lorsignol's very clear and convincing address was much appreciated. Several who knew nothing of the movement before considered her arguments irrefutable, and it is hoped that some energetic work for the cause will result.

#### WALTHAMSTOW.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. David Milne, Claremont House, 46, Second Avenue, Walthamstow.

A meeting is being held at the Pioneer Café, Hoe Street, on Thursday, March 2, at 8.30 p.m., when Miss Hart will give an address. A number of canvassers are wanted for Self-Denial Week. Will those willing to help send their names to the secretary?

#### WANDSWORTH.

Shop and Office—17, High Street.

Organiser—Miss Charlotte Markwick.

The organiser begs all those members and friends who read *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, and live within reasonable distance of this district, to come forward and help, as time is now short and the Town Hall meeting on March 7 must be thoroughly advertised. Chalkers, members for poster painting, stewards and canvassers are urgently needed. As Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Decimus Moore are so kindly speaking, it is the duty of the local members to show their gratitude by making this meeting a brilliant success. Heartfelt thanks to all those who have already given so much help and subscriptions, which will be acknowledged in next week's paper. A bazaar will be held on March 13 (Monday) from 10.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thanks to Miss Grievor for the beautiful contributions already sent in. Tickets for Town Hall meeting can be obtained at 47, High Street, and will be on sale at the box-office on the night of the meeting.

## The "All-British"

high-class washing material marked

## "Viyella"

(Regd.)

Ladies' & Children's present wear.

A "Viyella" Nightdress, whether of simple or elaborate design, stands out above its competitors as the ideal garment for present wear. In cut, trimming, and in finish, all possible care is taken to ensure the best result; but of course the garment depends in the main upon the well-known qualities of "Viyella," viz., its softness, lightness, unshrinkability, and durability. All these points combine to make a garment pleasing in every way to the lady of most particular tastes.

For children's wear the well-known durability of "Viyella" is, with its quality of softness to tender skins, its chief recommendation. Further, "Viyella" does not shrink, and may be had in either plain Cream or a variety of new and tasteful colourings. As a protection for Children against chill and discomfort in cold weather, "Viyella" is the ideal material.

"Viyella" Nightdresses and Children's Garments may be obtained from high-class Drapers and Outfitters, or information as to the nearest Retailer will be sent upon application to—

**WM. HOLLINS and CO., Ltd.**

1, "Viyella House," Newgate St., London, E.C.

#### WIMBLEDON.

Shop—9, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon, Tel. 1092. P.O. Wimbledon.

Hon. Organising Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Merton, Surrey.

Members have made valiant and successful efforts to fill the gap occasioned by the continued absence of Mrs. Lamartine Yates. Mrs. Dickinson, Mrs. Huggins and Mrs. Baile are specially to be commended. These Compton Hall weekly meetings on Fridays, at 3.30 p.m., should be made widely known, as they not only offer special opportunities for selling the paper and general literature, but have resulted in at least one newly-pledged member on each occasion, and many new sympathisers.

To-day presents a special opportunity, as the Rev. G. T. Sadler, B.A., LL.B., will speak. Next Friday, Mr. Victor Duval will give an address on "Liberalism and Women's Suffrage." Further handbills can be obtained at the offices. Tickets for the Wandsworth Town Hall meeting on March 7 (2s., 1s. and 6d.) are on sale at the shop. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Decimus Moore are the speakers, and Dr. F. A. Bather, F.R.S., will be in the chair. Albert Hall tickets are going quickly, and should be secured without delay. Two gifts have to be recorded: a weekly advertisement in the *Boro News* of the Compton Hall meetings for the six remaining weeks of the series, and a dial clock for the shop—given by Mr. and Mrs. Lamartine Yates on the occasion of the latter's birthday. The Sunday meetings continue to be very well attended.

#### Home Counties.

##### BARNET.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Susan Watt, 13, Stratford Road.

The Ewen Hall meeting on Thursday last was in every way a success. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence gave a stirring address leading up from the arithmetic of the vote to the vital social problems which women are faced with to-day. Lord Lytton sent a long and very interesting letter of sympathy, and regretted his unavoidable absence from the platform. The Rev. Hugh Chapman, chairman, urged the audience to follow the example of Mrs. Lawrence and Lady Lorsignol, who gave their utmost, and of Miss Edith Cleghorn, who had generously come to sing the new march. A good collection was taken, and a large stock of literature sold. Special thanks to those members who helped so generously with the shop last week

## READING.

Shop and Office: 34, West Street.  
Organiser—Miss Stella Fife.

The members gave a very enjoyable and successful At Home at the Ladies' County Club last Friday evening, when music and women's suffrage were happily continued. Miss Danes, the speaker, gave a delightful address, concluding with an appeal to those present to find means of bringing the question of the need for women's suffrage before the public. The programme included Schumann's noble quintet for piano and strings—played by Miss Eveline Fife, Mrs. Goad, Mr. C. G. Shaw, Miss Stella Fife, and Miss Katharine Edgar. Songs were contributed by Mrs. C. G. Shaw. Subscriptions to the Literature Fund and to the expenses of the At Home are gratefully acknowledged, and Miss Dale is also to be thanked for the flowers with which the rooms were decorated. Members are asked to apply at once for tickets for the Albert Hall meeting on March 23, in order that arrangements can be made with the S.W.R. for reduced fares. Miss Edwards has found a newsagent at Wallingford who is doing a good sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Friday, March 3.—39A, West Street, Members and Friends, 7.30 p.m.  
Thursday, March 9.—Redland Road Council Schools, 8 p.m.

## REDHILL.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Richmond, Fenchurch House.

Mrs. Tuckwell presided at the second of the lectures at Carlton Room on February 22, on "The Present Day Woman: Her Position under the Law." Mrs. Butler, in an exhaustive and moving address, dealt with the legal disabilities of women. Mr. Hughes paid a warm tribute to the speaker at the close.

Saturday, Mar. 4.—Ladbrooke Road, Open-air Meeting, Miss Isabel Green, Chair: Miss Wilson, 8 p.m.  
Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Carlton Room, 77, Station Road, Miss Leonora Tyson, Chair: Miss Wilson, 8 p.m.

## The Midlands.

## BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

Office—57, John Bright Street, Tel., 1443 Midland. Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel.

Miss Osbourne held a very successful Drawing-Room Meeting at her house on Friday, at which many people were interested for the first time in Women's Suffrage. The names of those who are willing to take others into their houses on the night of April 2, to allow of a number of women avoiding the census returns, will be welcomed. It is intended to hold an all-night party. Particulars of this may be had at the office. All members are cordially invited. Plans for Self-Denial Week are being formed, and suggestions will be gladly received. A thorough house-to-house canvass is being organised. A letter and an envelope for contributions will be left at a house and called for a few days later. If every member undertakes a small part of this work a great deal can be done. Please volunteer. On the Wednesday in Self-Denial Week, March 15, a large procession will be held at 7.30. Bands are being engaged, and a large number of banners will appear. It is to be hoped that every member not prevented by illness will join and bring at least two friends with her; a collection will be taken from the onlookers. Invitations for the reception on March 9 (see below), will be sent to the friends of members, if names and addresses are handed in at the office. All members are invited, but they are requested to send a written acceptance if they can come.

Friday, March 3.—Queen's College, Mrs. Kinston Parkes, "No Vote, No Tax," 3 and 8 p.m.  
Thursday, Mar. 9.—Plough and Harrow Hotel, Hagley Road, Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, 5.30 p.m.  
Friday, March 10.—Queen's College, Mrs. Peake, Mrs. Burman, 8 p.m. only.

## COVENTRY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Dawson, St. Peter's Vicarage.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss E. Bull, Ashton House.

Thursday, Mar. 9.—Lounge Cafe, Mrs. Massy, 8 p.m.

## DENSBY.

Organiser—Miss Brewer, 6, Lime Avenue.

Tickets for the Temperance Hall meeting on Wednesday (see below), price 1s., 6d., and 3d., to be obtained from Edgar Horne and Co., The Strand.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Temperance Hall, Mrs. Brailsford, 1716 Leicester.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Office—15, Bowring Green Street, Leicester.  
Tel., 1716 Leicester.

Organisers—Miss Dorothy Pethick, Miss Y. West.

This week Mrs. Massy is visiting Leicestershire, and it is hoped many new members will be one of the results. Will all members volunteer to help in the scheme for Self-Denial Week of undertaking to leave a circular letter in every house of a given street, and then calling a week later to collect the results. Volunteers for this are urgently needed; it is a form of self-denial that the most timid can undertake. On March 15 the first of the Ward meetings will take place in the Wyollie Ward, at the Gipsy St. Schools, and canvassers are urgently needed to distribute handbills advertising the meeting. The Ward meetings must be a great success, and this will depend entirely upon the zeal and devotion of individual members. Self-Denial goods for the shop will now be heartily welcomed.

Monday, Mar. 8.—Melton Mowbray, Reading Room, Corn Exchange, Mrs. Massy, Chair: Miss D. Pethick, 3.30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 7.—Leicester, Temperance Hall, Rooms 3 and 4, Mrs. Massy 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Market Harborough, Co-operative Hall, Mrs. Massy, 3.30 p.m. Kilbourn, Village Hall, Mrs. Massy, 7.30 p.m. Shop, Speakers' Class, 8 p.m.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Corcoran, 22, Victoria Street.

The splendid success of the whist drive was ample reward for members who worked so hard to ensure its success. Thanks to all who so kindly lent plants, tables, &c., and to those who gave refreshments and contributed towards the prizes. The financial result will be announced next week.

## NOTTINGHAM.

Office—6, Carlton Street, Tel., 4511.  
Hon. Secs.—Miss C. M. Burgin, B.A., Miss Wallis.

Mr. Hugh Franklin addressed a large and enthusiastic gathering on Wednesday, February 22. Members will be very glad to hear that he is coming to Nottingham again in April to address a Men's Meeting. Promises for the rummage sale early in April will be welcomed at 6, Carlton Street. Mr. Lawrence Housman has promised to speak in Nottingham—probable date April 22. The At-Home, at which Mrs. Oswald is singing is fixed for March 15, in Calvert's Ball Room. Tickets from Miss Noni Stevenson or Mrs. Lee, or from 6, Carlton Street.

## STAFFORD.

Organiser—Miss Dorothy Evans, 27, John Bright Street, Birmingham.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Zetland Tea Room, Miss C. E. Dugdale, 7.30 p.m.

## WALSALL.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Eveline Thacker, Field House, Buchanan Road, Walsall.

Several new members have been enrolled and much interest has been aroused by the recent meetings in Walsall. It has therefore been decided to hold monthly meetings in this town. Mrs. Layton and Mrs. Barber have kindly consented to lend their rooms for this purpose, and other members are urged to do the same. The Drawing-room Meeting arranged by Miss Thacker was a great success. Will members do their utmost to

widen the circulation of VOTES FOR WOMEN in Walsall? This may be done by selling in the principal streets, by house-to-house calling, and by getting newsmen to exhibit a poster each week. Mrs. Layton's Meeting will take place on March 16, at which Mrs. Bates will speak.

## West of England.

BATH.

Shop—15, Walcot Street, Bath.  
Organiser—Mrs. Mansel.

The first At Home of a series to be held weekly at the Assembly Rooms was a great success on Saturday last, and Miss Joschim's thoughtful speech was much appreciated. Many tickets were sold for Mr. Cecil Chapman's meeting and much interest was shown. Thanks to Mrs. Forbes Williams, a very successful little drawing-room meeting was also held on Friday. Members are canvassing actively for Mr. Chapman's meeting. At the meeting on March 11, the Woman's Marching Song, composed and dedicated to the Union by Dr. Ethel Smyth, will be sung. Members are invited to provide themselves with copies. Gratefully acknowledged: From Miss S. Strangways, two charming overalls in the colours, and from Mrs. Mansel, a supply of Votes for Women sweets for the shop. Towards hire of the hall for meeting on Feb 25.—A working woman, 3s., Miss Taube, 2s. 6d., Miss Friederichs Is., Miss Neal 2s., Miss R. C. Strangways 2s., Mrs. Ralph Is.

Saturday, Mar. 4.—Assembly Rooms, Cecil M. Chapman, Esq., "Woman and the Law," Chair: Mrs. Mansel, 3 p.m. Shop Members Rally, 6 to 8 p.m.  
Thursday, Mar. 9.—12, Walcot Street, Debate, "Will the Vote stop Sweating?" 4 p.m.

Saturday, March 11.—Assembly Rooms, Hugh A. Franklin, Esq., Chair: Mrs. Mansel, 3.30 p.m.

## BRISTOL.

Office—37, Queen's Road, Clifton, Tel., 1215.  
Organiser—Miss Annie Kenney.

It is hoped Mr. Franklin's meeting on March 9 will be a great success in every way. Madame Bouvier was the speaker at the Victoria Rooms on Monday last; her excellent address was much enjoyed by all, many papers were sold, and a good collection taken.

Monday, Mar. 8.—Victoria Rooms, Miss Joschim, 3.30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 9.—Victoria Rooms, Hugh A. Franklin, Esq., 3 p.m.

## EXETER.

Organiser—Miss Annie Kenney.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Montague, Fenton, Crediton.

Members and friends were greatly impressed by Mr. Pethick Lawrence's vigorous and convincing address last Saturday evening. One new member joined, and much literature was sold. The Secretaries are anxious to do some propaganda work in the outlying villages, but as this cannot be done without assistance, members and sympathisers are urged to come forward with offers of help, both personal and financial. Contributions and names of volunteers should be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the branch at the above address.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Office—6, Oriel Road, Cheltenham, Tel. 1071.  
Organiser—Miss S. Adele Flatman.

There is a great demand for At Home invitations but each member should do her part in canvassing and making these meetings known. Miss Stirling has undertaken to be Literature Secretary, and has promised to help daily for the next month. Self-Denial will begin to-morrow week, the Organiser is anxious to hear from each member, what she has decided to do to raise funds to carry on the work in this district.

"Whist Drives," "Book Tops," "China Teas," "Cake Sales," are all effective ways in which one's friends may be invited to help. Mrs. Ferguson, Bedfod Lodge, hopes that more members will call on Fridays to take a supply of papers regularly, and will call on their newsagents asking them to show a poster, and take a few copies on sale or return. Miss Flatman will be glad to hear from ladies willing to give drawing-room meetings.

Friday, Mar. 3.—At Home, Miss S. A. Flatman, Hostesses: Misses Andrews, 4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Mar. 7.—Cheltenham Town Hall, At Home, Lady Stout, Miss S. A. Flatman, 3 and 8 p.m.  
Wednesday, Mar. 8.—6, Oriel Road, At Home, Miss S. A. Flatman, 3 to 5 p.m.

## ILFRACOMBE AND BARNSTAPLE.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—Mrs. du Bontay Bowby, St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, Ilfracombe.

Hon. Lit. Secretary—Miss Ball, Nursing Home, Laristone, Ilfracombe.

A meeting was held at the Gaiety Hall, Ilfracombe, on February 24, when Mr. Pethick Lawrence made a very interesting speech. Mr. Shadie King, M.D., took the chair. The At Home on February 25, at the Imperial Hotel, Barnstaple, to meet Mr. Pethick Lawrence, was crowded and a great success. Most of those present had never been to a meeting before. They listened with great attention and much enjoyment to Miss Annie Kenney and Mr. Pethick Lawrence who pointed out to them many evils which would be remedied, and had already been remedied in the countries where women had the vote. Several said before they left that they had no idea such conditions existed. Literature sold well, and a collection of £1 17s. 5d. was taken. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Grant, Is. Many thanks to the members who helped at both meetings.

## TORQUAY AND DISTRICT.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss Hutton, Redlands, Paignton.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence's meeting in the Theatre Royal, Torquay, on Thursday last was a great success. The chair was taken by Miss Annie Kenney. The theatre was well-filled; those who attended had the pleasure of hearing a most impressive address, and were greatly interested. The evening was pleasantly devoted to a reception in honour of Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and several members joined. Most hearty thanks to the local members without whose unselfish and unremitting efforts the venture would not have been the success it was, also to Mrs. and the Misses Musket, now making a short stay in Torquay, whose thoughtful kindness and help proved most valuable. The Torquay, Paignton and Brixham papers were very generous in inserting good paragraphs calling attention to the meeting, and giving an account of the speaker. Members have decided to do their best to push the sale of the paper.

## TROWBRIDGE.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Mrs. Dove-Wilcox, Ivanhoe, Bradford Rd.

Volunteers for a house to house canvas which has been started are urgently needed. A reception will be held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, March 14, at 2.30 p.m.

## WILTSHIRE.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Katherine Abraham, 2, Eastcourt Street, Devizes.

Friday, Mar. 3.—Devizes Parish Room, Long Street, Mrs. Dove-Wilcox, 2.30 p.m.

## Wales.

## NEWPORT.

Office—16, Clarence Place, Newport.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Humphrey Mackworth.

At last Thursday's At Home, Mrs. Pillitter spoke on the political situation. Next week Lady Margaret Margesson will speak, and it is hoped members

(Continued on next page)

# Special Clearance List

Patterns Withdrawn from Stock Cannot be Repeated.

## DINNER SERVICES.

No. 1. Limoges China, rich gold border. 101 pieces

Reduced from £21 to 15 gns.

No. 2. Royal Worcester, Electric Green festoon border, gold edge. 101 pieces

Reduced from £12 12s. to 10 gns.

No. 4. Limoges China, painted floral and gold border. 101 pieces

Reduced from £14 10s. to 10 gns.

No. 5. Selected Staffordshire Ware, black and gold festoons. 101 pieces

Reduced from £14 10s. to 12 gns.

No. 6. 54 pieces, rich red, blue and gold Japan decoration

Reduced from £3 10s. to 55s.

No. 7. 101 pieces, dark green border, outlined with gold.

Reduced from £5 18s. 6d. to 4 gns.

No. 8. Dark green, rose pattern border, gold edge. 101 pieces

Reduced from 6 gns. to 25s.

## TEA SERVICES (40 pieces).

No. 12. Royal Worcester China, gold border, black and gold festoons

Reduced from 8 gns. to 7 gns.

No. 14. Mazarine blue and gold border with painted flowers in panels

To clear, 3 gns.

No. 15. Turquoise blue and gold, with painted flower festoons

To clear, 3 gns.

No. 16. Dark green border, with painted pink rose festoons, gold edge

To clear, 3 gns.

No. 17. Gold decoration on mazarine blue ground

To clear, 99s.

## DESSERT SERVICES (18 pieces).

No. 25. Rich red, blue and gold, Japan decoration

Reduced from 13 gns. to £3 19s. 6d.

No. 26. Rich mazarine blue and gold border with various painted centres. "A reproduction of Davenport's"

Reduced from £17 10s. to 10 gns.

# SPIERS & POND'S STORES

will bring friends with them to this meeting. Offers of drawing-rooms for meetings will be welcomed. Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Barry, Lady Isabel Margesson. Thursday, Mar. 9.—Newport. Shaftesbury Hall, "At Home"; Lady Isabel Margesson, 3.30 p.m. Pontypool, St. James's Hall, Lady Isabel Margesson, 7.30 p.m.

### Eastern Counties.

#### IPSWICH.

Shop—4a, Princes Street, Ipswich. Organiser—Miss Grace Roe, 19, Silent Street, Ipswich. Shop Sec.—Miss King.

In view of the second reading of the Bill on May 5, an extensive campaign is being planned in this district, taking in a large number of constituencies, and therefore Self-Denial week comes at an exceptionally opportune moment. Arrangements are now being made to carry out the following schemes: (1) Special Shop Sale: Miss King appears for home-made sweets, cakes, jams, marmalade, pickles, eggs, butter, and cheese, etc. (2) Jumble Sale: Goods should be sent to Miss Little Roe, 55, Faversham Road, Ipswich, not later than Friday, March 10. (3) Special Canvass: All are asked to devote a certain number of hours during Self-Denial week to this work. An excellent list of sympathisers can be obtained at the shop. (4) Open-Air Scheme: All able to take part in open-air work are asked to send in their names to the organiser at once. A very picturesque scheme is being planned.

#### PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT.

Organisers—Miss Grace Roe, Miss Helen Graggs, 14, Cromwell Road, Peterborough.

Mrs. Pankhurst's visit to Peterborough last Wednesday has aroused great interest. Mrs. Mansel presided at the afternoon At Home, held in the Fitzwilliam Rooms, when Mrs. Pankhurst's convincing speech made a deep impression on her audience. At the close quite a number of subscribers were obtained for the paper and several new members made. The Peterborough Advertiser, reporting Mrs. Pankhurst's evening meeting, says:—"The Corn Exchange was crowded, the audience including many of the leading ladies and gentlemen of the city." Both halls were delightfully decorated by the kindness of Councillor H. B. Vergette, who lent his plants for both meetings. The organisers specially thank Mrs. Fordham, Miss Vergette, Miss Wadlow, Miss Tebbett, Miss King, Miss Margaret Fison and Miss K. Guthrie for the splendid help they gave. Also to all who so kindly sent cakes for the At Home and stewarded at these meetings. Arrangements are being made for papers to be on sale at all the leading newsagents', and local members and friends are asked to give them their support. On Monday, February 20, Mrs. Mansel addressed the Women's Liberal Association, Peterloo, by kind invitation. Mrs. Winifred presided, and keen interest was aroused by Mrs. Mansel's speech. The next great event here will be Self-Denial Week, and Miss Graggs, who is entirely undertaking the scheme for this week, welcomes ideas from all. The market stall is to be special in evidence on Saturdays, March 11 and 18, and a special appeal is made for saleable goods of every kind. Country members can greatly help in this scheme by sending baskets of violets, snowdrops, home-made cakes, sweets, jams, pickles, marmalade, butter and eggs, etc. Everyone must send something. This is a new centre, therefore funds are urgently needed to open up the district. The organisers appeal to all to do their utmost in making this week a grand success.

Saturday, Mar. 4.—Bridge, St. Andrews' Hall, Mrs. Massy, Miss Grace Roe, 4 p.m.

### North-Eastern Counties.

#### BRADFORD AND DISTRICT.

Office—68, Manningham Lane. Phone 4038. Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips.

A crowded audience listened with great pleasure to Mrs. Zangwill's lecture on Tuesday. Many were outsiders, and all were charmed with the speaker's handling of the subject. The canvassing scheme is being taken up well, but the organiser will be glad to hear of more helpers. The Jumble Sale promises to be a great success, thanks to the energetic and untiring work of Miss Millar Wilson, and to her helpers, Mrs. Beldon, Miss Collins, Mrs. Holton, and Miss Newton, who have devoted themselves for several days to the task of sorting and pricing the goods. Mrs. Percy Lund is specially thanked for her kindness in coming to give hints, out of her experience with such sales, in pricing and general arrangement. It is hoped members will attend in large numbers at the At Home on March 8 and bring their friends.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Church Institute, North Parade, At Home, Mrs. Beldon, Miss Millar Wilson, 8 to 10 p.m.

#### HALIFAX.

Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips. Hon. Sec.—Dr. Helena Jones, 3, Rhodes Avenue.

The Mikado Café was crowded to overflowing last Wednesday night, and the audience listened most attentively to Mrs. Zangwill's lecture and to Dr. Jones's clear exposition of the reasons for the vote. To many of the people the question was comparatively new, but great interest was aroused, several new members joined, the local papers gave excellent reports, and members feel a most hopeful beginning has been made. Miss Elsie Greenwood kindly undertook the task of ticket and literature secretary. So will all applicants for tickets (Is., 6d., and 3d.) for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting on March 30 please apply to her? The tickets may be had on sale or return. Handbills may also be had, either from her or from Dr. Jones. Names of those willing to act as stewards and literature-sellers at Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting should also be sent to Miss Greenwood.

#### NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

Office—77, Blackett Street. Organiser—Miss A. Williams.

The organiser and Mrs. Aubrey were the speakers at Sunderland on Tuesday, February 21, at a very successful Drawing-room meeting, through the kindness of Mrs. Willis, an enthusiastic new member. A number of professional and business women were present. Several new members joined the Union, and many pamphlets and papers were sold. It was decided that a small hall should be taken for monthly meetings, and this part of the work has been kindly undertaken by Miss L. Thompson. It has also been arranged to hold monthly meetings at Jarrold and Gateshead. Dr. Alice Burn and the organiser will speak at Jarrold, March 14, in the adult school. A united meeting of the various branches of the Women's Co-operative Guild is being arranged for Friday, March 17, in the Guild Room at Dern Crook. The organiser has received a special invitation to speak on March 13 to the Jarrold branch, which has 80 members. The suffrage debate at the Irish Literary Society, on February 21, resulted in a splendid win for Miss Noreen Ball. In a crowded hall there were only two dissentients. The names of those who mean to oppose or evade the Census, and also names of volunteers for the next deputation, should be sent to Miss Williams. A cake and candy sale, which will include any and all kinds of eatables, will be held at 77, Blackett Street, on Saturday, March 11, at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at 6d. The date of Miss Vida Goldstein's visit to Newcastle will be announced later.

Friday, Mar. 3.—South Shields, Victoria Hall, Dr. Alice Burn, Miss Williams, Mr. Leyden, 7.30 p.m. Tuesday, Mar. 7.—Walker-on-Tyne, Woman's Co-operative Guild, Miss Annie Williams, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—Blackett Street, At Home, Dr. Alice Burn, 3 p.m. Public Meeting, Dr. Alice Burn, Chair; Miss Williams, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar. 9.—Gateshead Coatsworth Hall, Miss Williams and others, 8 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 10.—St. Stephen's Mutual Improvement Society, Parochial Hall, Tulloch Street, Miss Annie Williams, 7.30 p.m.

### SCARBOROUGH.

Shop—39, Huntriss Row. Hon. Sec.—Miss Sumfield, 12, New Queen Street. Hon. Treas.—Dr. Marion Mackenzie, 3, The Valley.

The new shop has attracted a great deal of attention in the town, and its first week's takings have exceeded the most sanguine anticipations. A Suffrage library, which is to be kept in the shop, has been started. A good many members have promised to lend their Suffrage Literature to it, and any book can be taken out for a fortnight at a penny a book. Thanks to the M.P.U. Sec., Mr. Wardell, for the loan of a clock, to Mrs. Wardell for the loan of a table, to Dr. Mackenzie for the loan of her illuminated address from Mrs. Pankhurst to hear others on to go to prison if necessary. To Miss Brummer, who has kindly lent a screen and given a tea cloth, and promised some linoleum. And to Miss Mary Mackenzie, who has given a green beaker tray. Members will be glad to hear that Mr. Howard Rountree has promised to speak in the shop on March 15, at 8 p.m. The Secretaries will be glad to hear of any members spending Easter in Scarborough who will volunteer for speaking, paper-selling, chaffing, or shop keeping. Helpers will be much needed for the latter at that time.

Wednesday, Mar. 8.—The Suffrage Shop, 39, Huntriss Row, 8 p.m.

### YORK.

Office—35, Coney Street. Organiser—Miss Key-Jones. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Coulter, 33, Melbourne Street.

Some excellent open-air meetings have been held during the week, including one at New Marwick. Miss Adela Pankhurst was the chief speaker on each occasion. The people were deeply interested. Members have worked hard in advertising the entertainments for Shrove Tuesday. Some took up pitches in different parts of the city, wearing placards, distributing bills and selling VOTES FOR WOMEN. Miss Adela Pankhurst and Miss Key-Jones have been indefatigable in their efforts to make it a success.

### North-Western Counties.

#### LIVERPOOL AND CHESHIRE.

Office—28, Berry Street. Tel. 3761 Royal. Organiser—Miss Davis.

An At Home to welcome the new organiser will be held to-day (Friday), at the shop, at 7.30 p.m. Members are all looking forward to meeting Miss Davis, and she is certain to have their hearty co-operation in the work. Admission to this At Home will be 6d.

#### MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

Central Office—17, St. Ann's Square, Manchester. Tel.: 1910 Central. Organiser—Miss Stephenson.

Lady Stout and Miss G. Brackenbury's meetings took place as arranged, the audiences being most interested in the benefits which the suffrage had brought to women in New Zealand. Many strangers were present, some of whom expressed astonishment that the vote could mean so much. Thanks to the following for their splendid help:—Mrs. Tolson, for the management of the tea and gift of provisions; Mrs. and Miss Sidebottom, Miss Eva Wilson, and Miss Mabel Capper. Every individual member is requested to bring at least one friend with them on Friday, March 10 (see below). Workers are required for the distribution of handbills, selling tickets, &c. It is hoped all members will attend to-night's special meeting.

Friday, Mar. 3.—17, St. Ann's Square, At Home, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar. 7.—17, St. Ann's Square, At Home, 3 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 10.—17, St. Ann's Square, At Home, Mr. Laurence Housman, 3 p.m. Onward Hall, "Census." Mr. Laurence Housman, 8 p.m.

### Scotland.

#### DUNDEE AND EAST FIFE.

Office—61, Nethergate. Organiser—Miss Fraser Smith, M.A. Hon. Sec.—Miss McFarlane.

Last week Miss Cook addressed two meetings. In the afternoon Miss Moorhead kindly gave a drawing-room meeting, which was most successful, and in the evening Miss Cook spoke again at 61, Nethergate. The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN is going ahead in Dundee. Miss Rose and Miss Whitton, on Saturday last, sold, with the help of other members, ten dozen papers. Several newsagents in the principal streets are now showing the poster. Promises of cakes, candy and marmalade have been received for the sale on March 25. More offers of help will be welcomed. Members will be pleased to hear that Mr. Laurence Housman will speak at 61, Nethergate, on March 15, on the Census Resistance. On March 31, Miss Vida Goldstein will speak in the Upper Giffillan Hall. Tickets (6d. and 3d.) and handbills will be ready shortly. On March 24, a public meeting will be held in Blairgowrie, at which Madame Malinberg will be the speaker. Further particulars will be given later. Members are reminded that Self-Denial Week is coming. Warm thanks to Misses Alexander, Mrs. Thacker, Miss Keddie and Misses McDonald for their splendid supplies of candy.

Saturday, March 4.—Flower Market, Literature and Candy Stall, 2 to 10 p.m.

Wednesday, March 8.—61, Nethergate, Miss Frances M. Parker-Cantab, 8 p.m.

#### EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Office—8, Molyneux Place, Queensferry Street. Organiser—Miss Burns, B.A. Tel.: 6182 Central.

Miss Anne Cook very kindly filled Miss Freeman's engagements during the past week. Mrs. Duncan's splendid drawing-room meeting on Monday afternoon, and Miss Thomson's on Tuesday evening, went off very successfully. A charming meeting was arranged at Portobello for Friday evening by the Portobello members. Miss Cook was the speaker. Many thanks to Mrs. Baxendale for her skilful management of the evening's business and pleasure, and to Portobello friends who made up the delightful programme. Work will now be concentrated on the Census protest; it will be possible for every single member to protest with this scheme, in one way or another. Ways and means can be discussed at the office; information will be most gladly supplied.

#### GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Shop and Office—503, Sauchiehall Street. Tel.: 615, Charing Cross. Organiser—Miss Wyllie.

Members are requested to assemble without fail tomorrow (Saturday), in the shop, to consider the census protest and the plans for Self-Denial Week. It is only by taking counsel together that the best results can be reached, and the organiser hopes every member will make a point of putting in an appearance. The weekly At Home on Saturday was largely attended, and it is gratifying to observe the increasing number of strangers. Mrs. Zangwill's address was at once powerful and sympathetic, and was listened to with rapt attention. Mrs. Hector's Drawing-room Meeting was successful in arousing the interest of many who had never before attended any suffrage gathering. Miss Wyllie and Miss Ratcliffe spoke. Gratefully acknowledged:—Mrs. Englesea, 1s.; Miss Walker, 1s.; Miss Johnstone, 1s.; Miss M. Campbell, 10s.; Miss Dunn, 10s.; Mrs. Zangwill, 21s. 2s. 3d.; Mr. Adamson, 2s. 2s.; Mrs. McNeely, 2s. (car money); Miss McLaren, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Maxon, 3s.; Miss Hamilton, 2s. 6d.

### SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hop. Elocution Mistress—Miss Ross Loo, 4s. Ashworth Mansions, Eglinton Avenue, W.

Hop. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

For the subject for this week's class the members are asked to read the daily papers and to deal with any extract from them which clearly shows the need for

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the woman's voice. Next week the subject will be the "Position of Married Women Under the Law." Will members please communicate with Miss Hale about the public classes, and with Miss Lee about the private classes, and in the latter case a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed. Members are particularly asked to note that everyone who attends these classes must be prepared to speak.

## RULES.

1. Members of the Union only are eligible.
2. The Class is held at 4, Clements Inn, Room 72, every Friday, at 7.45 p.m. sharp.
3. Entrance fee 3d. weekly, proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature.
4. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class.
5. Members are limited to ten classes, and it must be clearly understood that no one shall be admitted to these classes except intending speakers.

## CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.: Miss Phyllis Ayrton, 22, Edith Road, West Kensington; Miss Cynthia Maguire, 15, Carlton Vale, Haida Vale, N.W.

The debate on Tuesday was a great success; Miss Ayrton championed the cause of Woman's Suffrage, and Mr. Bowesley opposed it. Those members of the W.S.P.U. who are engaged in clerical work should make a point of writing to one of the Secretaries and joining the Clerks' W.S.P.U. It is essential that all women in business should be drawn into the movement, and this cannot better be done than by introducing them to the Clerks' W.S.P.U., which has been expressly formed for the purpose of getting into touch with women clerks.

## CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

President—The Bishop of Lincoln.

Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.

During the last few days the Oxford branch has received a great impetus, as Rev. H. Scott Holland, Regius Professor of Divinity at the University of Oxford, has kindly consented to become its President. Successful meetings have been held during the week at Brighton, Richmond, Worthing and Portsmouth; at Worthing a branch has been established, and another is in progress of formation at Portsmouth. On Monday, March 6, at 8 p.m., the Greenwich and Lewisham Branch are holding a public meeting at the Borough Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich; chairman, Rev. F. H. Jeays, M.A.; speakers, Mrs. Close Shipland and Rev. C. Hinckley. Addresses will be given on Thursday evenings during Lent, at 8 p.m., at St. Mary's, Paddington Green, by Rev. C. Hinckley on "Social Problems of To-day." March 9, School; 16, Business; 23, The Poor; 30, The Unfit; April 6, The Prodigate.

## WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Mrs. Kinston Parkes addressed two very interesting meetings during the past week. One was at the New Constitutional Society, and the other at Buxton Town Hall on Friday, February 24. This week she will address meetings in connection with the W.S.P.U. at Loughborough, Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, and Birmingham. The Women's Tax Resistance League have also adopted the Census Boycott as another logical form of Passive Resistance to a Government which still refuses their claims to citizenship. They are in full sympathy with those scientists who feel it would be the very greatest pity to cause any inaccuracy in the census returns, but it must be recognised that the fault will lie with the Government and not with the women.

## FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Org. Sec.—Rev. Edward Clark, 1, Burns Road, Harlesden, London, N.W. Hon. Cor. Sec.—Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hoy.

To give effect to the interest created by the Memorial Hall meeting, the Rev. E. Clark is starting an organising campaign. He will be glad of help in the following ways: (a) Names of Free Church men and women who would help form branches; if possible, introductions to such. (b) Names of ministers in sympathy, especially if they would speak or get church rooms lent for meetings. (c) Information as to special neighbourhood-halls, kind of meetings and speakers desirable, prospective local vice-presidents or members of committees, drawing-rooms that might be lent, etc. (d) Personal help is specially needed, with which the Executive Committee is prepared to co-operate. Two meetings have been held, one at Lavender Hill with Rev. E. Clark as speaker, resulting in a Battersea Branch, with Mrs. Sambrook as secretary; a second at Manor Mission, Bermondsey. A secretary is still wanted. Will someone offer? A suffrage service at a London church is proposed. Particulars will be given later.

## IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Miss Chenevix presided at Tuesday's weekly meeting, which was addressed by Professor Oldham (Professor of Commerce, National University). In the course of his able and vivid address Professor Oldham alluded to the old argument that women were unfit to vote, he admitted that many were not politically educated, but stated that this was a reason for giving, not withholding, the vote. The same was true of the agricultural labourer, who only fitted himself by the exercise of the vote. The present situation he declared full of hope, the year being an exceptionally favourable one for the passing of our bill. A discussion followed.

## IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, BELFAST.

There was a large attendance at the Central Hall meeting, Rosemary Street, on Monday, February 13. Mrs. Wadsworth took the chair, and the following ladies spoke: Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Elliot, Mrs. Hickey, Mrs. McCourt, and Miss Carter, and their speeches were well received. Mrs. Hickey takes charge of the paper selling, and manages to dispose of nine dozen every week. The society finds that the present office in the Scottish Temperance Buildings is too small, and is on the look out for a larger one.

## THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Organizer—Miss Helen Ogston.  
Office—4, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station).

At the Home on Tuesday, February 21, Mrs. Kinston Parkes explained the various methods and uses of tax resistance and detailed the progress of the Tax Resistance League. The audience were especially interested. Later in the afternoon the chairman, Mrs. Hartley, announced a pleasant surprise, namely, short addresses from Miss Boyle, president of the Johannesburg Women's Suffrage Society, and Miss Broadhurst; also from Miss Elterton, who spoke on the Census. The best thanks of the committee to the member who so kindly sent a cheque for office rents.

## THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

Adelphi Terrace House, 2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 2114.

Organizing Secretary—Miss Joan Dugdale.

The Play Department announces a performance of exceptional interest on Tuesday afternoon, March 7, at three o'clock, at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden Lane, W.C. Two new one-act plays will be produced, Miss Eva Moore, Mrs. J. B. Fagan, Miss Dora Barton, Miss Gillian Scaife, and other well-known actors and actresses having promised their services. The programme will include "Restitution," by John Kidd, a powerful play dealing with the divorce question; "Her Wild Oats," by Harold Rubinstein, which touches upon the Suffrage question from a new point of view; and "The Other Side," an entertaining monologue by H. M. Paul. Tickets (all reserved), 2s and 3s, may be had from the League or from Miss Victoria Addison, 37, Anson Road, Kensington, W.

So widespread and almost universal has become the conviction that true progress will never be made until both sections of the human race are placed on an equal footing in all departments of life that to find adherents to the old idea of sex-inequality is almost as hopeless a task as the search for the proverbial needle in the bundle of straw. At a debate held under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League on Friday last at the Caxton Hall on the subject, "That Equality of the Marriage Laws would be Desirable for the Progress of the Community," it was found that Dr. Forbes Winslow, who was to have taken the negative, was in perfect agreement with Mr. Cecil Chapman, who took the affirmative, and, although the hall was densely packed with people, not one was to be found to dispute the proposition. Despite, however, the absence of that opposition which always lends a touch of keenness to a discussion, the debate proved of great interest, and the remarks of Mr. Cecil Chapman, the well-known London magistrate, were especially instructive:

"I do most sincerely affirm," said Mr. Chapman, "that the equality of treatment of the sexes must lead to a greater increase of spirituality and intellectuality. The inequality of the law as regards this particular question stands thus: If the marriage contract is broken by the woman it can be at once dissolved at the instance of the man, but if it is broken by the man it cannot be dissolved at the instance of the woman, who has got to wait until he has added to his original offence something of a stronger and more brutal nature, and he must be guilty of gross cruelty or of desertion or starvation or some other horror, to make it possible for her to get rid of the tie." The result of this state of affairs was that thousands of women, especially those belonging to the working-classes, passed their lives in great misery.

After a short discussion the resolution was put from the chair by Lady Meyer, and was carried unanimously.

## WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS.

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## CONSERVATIVE &amp; UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

Kensington Branch.

This association had a very crowded and interesting meeting at 60, Onslow Gardens, on Wednesday, February 22, by the kind permission of Mrs. Hytton Dale. The speakers were Mrs. Morgan Dockrell and Mr. J. R. Uriek, Professor of Political Economy at King's College. Mrs. Hytton Dale presided, and also spoke eloquently. The meeting was successful in every way, and a good collection was taken.

## WESTMINSTER.

Through an error, the drawing-room meeting at 129, Ashley Gardens, S.W., announced in last week's issue of VOTES FOR WOMEN for March 18, should have been March 16.

The Friends' Social Purity and Abolitionist Association will hold a day's conference on Friday, March 10, at Westminster Friends' Meeting House, 52, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. Mrs. Bramwell Booth will open the discussion on "The Limitations of Rescue Work as a Check to Immorality."

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**All Advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.**

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

**SOCIETY OF THE GOLDEN KEY.—Temporary premises, 14, Lexham Gardens (Earl's Court Tube). Every Friday evening, 8.30; Debates, Lectures on Social Subjects, Art, Literature. Send to Secretary for information. Mrs. Hugo Ames (Flora Northesk Wilson) (Master of Unity, Los Angeles), President; Hugo Ames, B.A., Vice-President. Lectures shortly on "White Slave Traffic in America," "Divorce: its Use and Abuse." Opening of Hayter House, Chelston Gardens, March 24. Members W.S.P.U., entrance, Music, Tea. Pledge, "Let Us Work in Unity."**

## BOARD RESIDENCE, Rooms, Holiday Homes, Etc.

**BOARD-RESIDENCE.—Young lady wishes to receive paying guests. Double or single rooms, 15s. 6d. Garden. Motor-buses. District Railways. Bath (h. and c.). West suburb.—Box 816, VOTES FOR WOMEN Offices, 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.**

**BOARD RESIDENCE, or would let part of house. Large rooms, good light for painting. Recommended by members of W.S.P.U.—95, Sinclair Road, W. Kensington.**

**BRIGHTON.—Board-Residence or Apartments, in home of Suffragette, W.S.P.U. Recommended by members. Special care to those needing rest. Mrs. Wright, 209, Preston Drove.**

**BRIGHTON.—TITCHFIELD HOUSE, 21, Upper Rock Gardens, Marine Parade. Good Table. Congenial Terms. Terms from 25s., inclusive. Mrs. Gray, member W.S.P.U.**

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